

CADON
EAB
-H26

Government
Publication

EA-87-02



3 1761 11652511 4



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BOARD

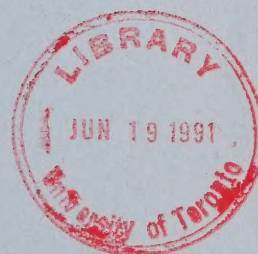
VOLUME: 311

DATE: Wednesday, May 22, 1991

BEFORE:

A. KOVEN Chairman

E. MARTEL Member



FOR HEARING UPDATES CALL (COLLECT CALLS ACCEPTED) (416)963-1249

EARR
ASSOCIATES &
REPORTING INC.

(416) 482-3277

2300 Yonge St., Suite 709, Toronto, Canada M4P 1E4

CASON
EAB
-H26

Government
Publication

EA-87-02



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BOARD

VOLUME: 311

DATE: Wednesday, May 22, 1991

BEFORE:

A. KOVEN Chairman

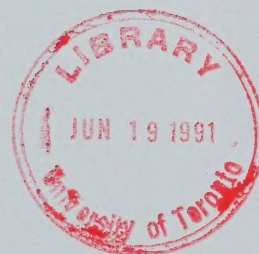
E. MARTEL Member

FOR HEARING UPDATES CALL (COLLECT CALLS ACCEPTED) (416) 963-1249

EARR
ASSOCIATES &
REPORTING INC.

(416) 482-3277

2300 Yonge St., Suite 709, Toronto, Canada M4P 1E4





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761116525114>

HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL BY THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL
RESOURCES FOR A CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
TIMBER MANAGEMENT ON CROWN LANDS IN ONTARIO

IN THE MATTER of the Environmental
Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1980, c.140;

- and -

IN THE MATTER of the Class Environmental
Assessment for Timber Management on Crown
Lands in Ontario;

- and -

IN THE MATTER of a Notice by The Honourable
Jim Bradley, Minister of the Environment,
requiring the Environmental Assessment
Board to hold a hearing with respect to a
Class Environmental Assessment (No.
NR-AA-30) of an undertaking by the Ministry
of Natural Resources for the activity of
Timber Management on Crown Lands in
Ontario.

Public hearing held at the Inn of the Woods
Hotel, 470 First Avenue South, Kenora, Ontario,
on Wednesday, May 22nd, 1991, commencing at
2:00 p.m.

VOLUME 311

BEFORE:

MRS. ANNE KOVEN
MR. ELIE MARTEL

Chairman
Member

A P P E A R A N C E S

MR. V. FREIDIN, Q.C.	)	MINISTRY OF NATURAL
MS. C. BLASTORAH	)	RESOURCES
MS. K. MURPHY)	
MR. B. CAMPBELL)	
MS. J. SEABORN	)	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
MS. N. GILLESPIE)	
MR. R. TUER, Q.C.)	
MR. R. COSMAN	)	ONTARIO FOREST INDUSTRY
MS. E. CRONK	)	ASSOCIATION
MR. P.R. CASSIDY)	
MR. H. TURKSTRA		ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BOARD
MR. J.E. HANNA	)	ONTARIO FEDERATION
DR. T. QUINNEY	)	OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS,
MR. D. HUNTER		NISHNAWBE-ASKI NATION and WINDIGO TRIBAL COUNCIL
MR. J.F. CASTRILLI)	
MS. M. SWENARCHUK	)	FORESTS FOR TOMORROW
MR. R. LINDGREN)	
MS. B. SOLANDT-MAXWELL)	
MR. D. COLBORNE	)	GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3
MS. S.V. BAIR-MUIRHEAD)	
MR. C. REID	)	ONTARIO METIS &
MR. R. REILLY	)	ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION
MR. P. SANFORD	)	KIMBERLY-CLARK OF CANADA
MS. L. NICHOLLS	)	LIMITED and SPRUCE FALLS
MR. D. WOOD	)	POWER & PAPER COMPANY
MR. D. MacDONALD		ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

APPEARANCES (Cont'd):

MR. R. COTTON		BOISE CASCADE OF CANADA LTD.
MR. Y. GERVAIS	)	ONTARIO TRAPPERS
MR. R. BARNES	)	ASSOCIATION
MR. R. EDWARDS	)	NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST
MR. B. McKERCHER	)	OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION
MR. L. GREENSPOON	)	NORTHWATCH
MS. B. LLOYD)	
MR. J.W. ERICKSON, Q.C.)		RED LAKE-EAR FALLS JOINT
MR. B. BABCOCK	)	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE
MR. D. SCOTT	)	NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO
MR. J.S. TAYLOR	)	ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
MR. J.W. HARBELL	)	GREAT LAKES FOREST
MR. S.M. MAKUCH	)	PRODUCTS
MR. D. CURTIS	)	ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL
MR. J. EBBS	)	FORESTERS ASSOCIATION
MR. D. KING		VENTURE TOURISM ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO
MR. H. GRAHAM		CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY (CENTRAL ONTARIO SECTION)
MR. G.J. KINLIN		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MR. S.J. STEPINAC		MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT & MINES
MR. M. COATES		ONTARIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
MR. P. ODORIZZI		BEARDMORE-LAKE NIPIGON WATCHDOG SOCIETY

APPEARANCES (Cont'd):

MR. R.L. AXFORD	CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SINGLE INDUSTRY TOWNS
MR. M.O. EDWARDS	FORT FRANCES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MR. P.D. McCUTCHEON	GEORGE NIXON
MR. C. BRUNETTA	NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO TOURISM ASSOCIATION

I N D E X O F P R O C E E D I N G S

<u>Witness:</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
<u>MARK DUGGAN</u>	54982
<u>HOWARD ADAMS</u>	54991
<u>CHRIS POATE</u>	54998
<u>MR. BEDARD</u>	55018
<u>ROBERT HORLEY</u>	55019
<u>RICHARD THUNDER</u>	55037
<u>DAVID BURT</u>	55039
<u>JIM AMBS</u>	55048
<u>WENDEL DAFCIK</u>	55051
<u>FERNAND THERRIEN</u>	55053
<u>JOE SNIEZEK</u>	55055
<u>DOUG ANDERSON</u>	55063
<u>MARCIE ANDERSON</u>	55063
<u>DAVID TREUSCH</u>	55076
<u>BOB HUITIKKA</u>	55087
<u>GASTON PORIER</u>	55103
<u>FRANK GRANTBOISE</u>	55110
<u>BILL SKENE</u>	55116
<u>CLARKE HANDERSON</u>	55123
<u>ALLAN THOMSON</u>	55134
<u>OLEAN JONES</u>	55146
<u>JACK PEARSON</u>	55151
<u>HERB MARTIN</u>	55160
<u>CHARLES QUEAU</u>	55170
<u>GEORGE KOVALL</u>	55174

I N D E X O F E X H I B I T S

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1838	Written presentation of Town of Kenora (Mark Duggan).	54982
1839	Written presentation by Mr. Howard Adams.	54991
1840	Map of northwestern Ontario with the State of Wyoming superimposed over the top of it.	55013
1841	Six-page written presentation by Mr. Robert Horley.	55019
1842	Letter from acting Chief Josephine Mandamin, Islington Band Council, presented by Richard Thunder.	55037
1843	One-page submission by Mr. Fernand Therrien.	55055
1844	Written presentation of Doug and Marcie Anderson.	55076
1845	Six-page written presentation of Mr. Huitikka.	55088
1846	Two-page submission of Frank Grantboise.	55110
1847	Written presentation by Mr. Jack Pearson.	55151
1848	Six-page written submission from Lorelie Konchak, E. Holmgren & Son Limited, Ottawa.	55178

1 ---Upon commencing at 2:00 p.m.

2 MADAM CHAIR: Good afternoon, please be
3 seated.

4 Good afternoon everyone, can you hear me
5 in the back of the room? Just lift your hands if you
6 lose my voice.

7 Welcome to the Timber Management Hearing
8 in Kenora. This is day 311 of this very long hearing
9 which began in May of 1988.

10 Allow me to introduce Mr. Elie Martel,
11 and my name is Anne Koven. Mr. Martel and I are
12 members of the Environmental Assessment Board and we
13 were given the job three years ago to hear all of the
14 evidence on the Ministry of Natural Resources
15 application for an approval on a class environmental
16 assessment for timber management.

17 We have heard from hundreds of people on
18 this issue. We have spent most of our time in northern
19 Ontario. For the first two years we sat in Thunder Bay
20 and we have also toured all areas of the north since
21 then. For the last few months we have been in Toronto
22 and we had people from the north coming down to talk to
23 us.

24 Our process is a very simple one and we
25 want people who are going to come before the Board and

1 say something to feel very comfortable. We don't have
2 many rules today. We try to make it as informal as
3 possible because we know it's difficult for people to
4 stand up in front of an audience and talk to us. This
5 is the process we have to follow because we haven't
6 found a better way of talking to the public.

7 We have scheduled today about eight
8 people this afternoon and another 10 or so this
9 evening. The evening session begins at seven o'clock.

10 If there is anyone in the room who hasn't
11 spoken to Mr. Pascoe -- Dan could you stand up. Dan is
12 standing in the back of the room and Dan runs the
13 hearing, he's the hearing co-ordinator. If there is
14 anyone who would like to speak to the Board today and
15 whose name is not on this list, perhaps you'd get in
16 touch with Mr. Pascoe and he will get your name up to
17 us.

18 What we would ask you to do before you
19 make your submission is approach the Board and we will
20 swear in your evidence and then ask you to take a seat
21 at this the table in front of us and begin your
22 presentation.

23 Sometimes people have what they want to
24 say written out, in which case you can read it; and
25 other times people just want to sit down and tell us

1 what's on their mind, and that's perfectly acceptable
2 as well.

3 As each person makes a submission Mr.
4 Martel and I might want to ask a few questions and we
5 also invite other people in the audience to question
6 any of the speakers.

7 There are some parties represented by
8 full-time participation at the hearing and I will
9 introduce you to some of those people in case they
10 should stand up and ask questions you'll know who they
11 are.

12 Mr. Paul Cassidy represents the Ontario
13 Forest Industries Association; Nora Gillespie
14 represents the Ministry of the Environment, and
15 Catherine Blastorah represents the Ministry of Natural
16 Resources, and so if they ask you questions you'll know
17 whose interests they represent.

18 I think with those few words of
19 introduction we will begin, and if the audience has any
20 questions about our work for the Environmental
21 Assessment Board or the history of this application,
22 we'd be happy to answer those questions as well.

23 I'm going to call on, as our first
24 speaker today, Mayor Calvin Winkler.

25 MR. DUGGAN: I'll be representing the

1 Mayor today.

2 MADAM CHAIR: All right, thank you.

3 MR. DUGGAN: My name is Mark Duggan,
4 D-u-g-g-a-n, acting Mayor.

5 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Duggan.

6 MARK DUGGAN, Sworn

7 MADAM CHAIR: What we do, each time a
8 piece of written evidence is given to us we assign it
9 an exhibit number so we can keep it straight and we are
10 going to assign Exhibit No. 1838 to the presentation of
11 the Town of Kenora.

12 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1838: Written presentation of Town of
13 Kenora (Mark Duggan).

14 MADAM CHAIR: Please go ahead, Mr.
15 Duggan.

16 MR. DUGGAN: Thank you very much.

17 On behalf of the Council and the people
18 of Kenora I welcome the members of the Board to Kenora.
19 We're very pleased that the Board is providing an
20 opportunity to the people of the north to address the
21 Board on their future. I would hope that in its
22 deliberations the Board will give due consideration to
23 the concerns and views expressed by the people who
24 live, work and play in this vast region and who wish to
25 be able to continue to do so.

1 Today Kenora has a population of 9,400
2 people and occupies 3,788 acres of shoreline on Lake of
3 the Woods. If you have the opportunity to tour our
4 town you'll find that it takes full advantage of its
5 picturesque location.

6 You will find warm, friendly, industrious
7 people who, whether they be long-term residents or
8 newcomers, have made the decision that this is where
9 they want to work and raise their families.

10 The services available in Kenora reflect
11 a much larger population base. We share our services
12 and our resources with our neighbours in the Towns of
13 Keewatin and Jaffray-Melick and with the residents in
14 the unincorporated area that surround our three towns.
15 It is this population base which supports a highly
16 developed commercial and educational and medical,
17 professional establishment and makes Kenora such a
18 great place to live and to visit.

19 The Town of Kenora has a long association
20 with the forest resources which surround it.
21 Throughout its 109 years of incorporated history,
22 Kenora has been the centre of forest resource
23 industries from sawmills to paper mills and it
24 continues to this very day. However, Kenora has shown
25 that it is possible for the forest industry to co-exist

1 with many other user groups, the three local
2 municipalities, the cottagers on Lake of the Woods, the
3 camps and resort owners and the visitors from all over
4 the world who enjoy this very special part of Ontario.
5 We are in total a resource-based community. We are
6 fortunate, however, not to be a single industry town.

7 We want to stress that we are a natural
8 resource-based community in the truest sense. The
9 beauty of our setting with the ruggedness of the rock
10 of the Canadian Shield, the green of our forested
11 areas, and the waters of our lakes and rivers create a
12 spectacular environment. Add to this the combination
13 of wildlife and the bald eagles, the blue herons, the
14 pelicans and the loons, moose, deer, bear on the land,
15 and lake trout, walleye, bass and northern and
16 muskellunge in the water, and it really does seem like
17 a paradise in fair weather months.

18 The birds I mentioned are protected, the
19 hunting of the animals is carefully regulated and
20 controlled and so also is the taking of fish. The
21 management of our forest and lands are also regulated
22 and controlled today, far more than any previous time
23 in our history.

24 If you were to drive into Kenora from the
25 east you would see a result of the Kenora Fire 80-23,

1 nature's own regulations and control of the forest
2 resources. Fire 80-23 burned 2,223,000 acres of forest
3 land, the equivalent of 15 years of a cut to supply the
4 Boise Cascade mill here in Kenora. Today the burn is
5 again green and full of new growth.

6 The same progression can also be seen on
7 cut-over areas; mature trees harvested, site
8 preparation, new trees planted or in areas of strip
9 cutting, natural seeding and regeneration from the
10 adjacent standing timber.

11 Kenora of 1991 is different from Kenora
12 of 1980. The Kenora of the year 2000 will undoubtedly
13 be different than the Kenora of today.

14 Forest management techniques of today
15 have improved over the past 10 years. We expect that
16 progress to continue over the next 10 years. We have
17 no reason to doubt that.

18 We believe in total utilization of our
19 natural resources but not to the total domination
20 exclusively of one particular group over another.
21 Co-management exists today very well with tourism,
22 mining and forestry. Through good management and sound
23 planning the multiple use of our natural resources is
24 possible, it is practical and it is preferred.

25 The musical Oklahoma contains the words

1 in one of its songs, "the cowboy and the farmer should
2 be friends". To paraphrase that line quite liberally,
3 the people who live in the north and the people who
4 live in the south should be friends. We are all
5 Ontarions; however, some of the people in the south
6 must appreciate and respect the people of the north's
7 right to live and to work in this region and to utilize
8 its resources to do so.

9 We don't mind sharing our resources with
10 them. Tourism is a very important industry in this
11 region, in fact, we welcome the Mormon. Somehow as
12 northerners we have to deliver a message to the vast
13 silent majority in the south concerning the resource
14 management and the multi-use concept to resource
15 utilization.

16 We are not rapers of our resource, we
17 care and are as concerned as any group about the future
18 and that of northern Ontario. We have to be sure that
19 the silent majority of the south is not swayed by the
20 vocal minority who would have us all believe that
21 harvesting mature and largely overmature forest is
22 devastating the north. A strong, well-managed forest
23 means jobs and our security. Why would we sit by and
24 see it raped. With respect we wish the vocal minority
25 of the south would concern themselves more with the

1 devastation of prime agricultural land in southern
2 Ontario for housing sub-divisions and auto plants.

3 We mentioned earlier that we are not a
4 single industry town and that is true. We are,
5 however, a single resource-based town and that resource
6 is all that is surrounding us; the natural resources of
7 the forest, the water, the fish and the game and the
8 beauty of the natural state that combines it to form.
9 Yes, we want to keep it in that way and we can without
10 loss of employment due to restrictions of use of any
11 one component.

12 We understand the hearing process is far
13 from over. We wish you well in your long endeavour and
14 look forward to a progressive and responsible outcome
15 that will ensure our future as a multiple use
16 resource-based community.

17 In closing our motto for fish
18 conservation catch and release is "The Future of
19 Fishing is in your Hands". One could say the future of
20 the north is in your hands.

21 Thank you again for coming to Kenora and
22 for this opportunity to address you.

23 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, very much, Mr.
24 Duggan, for the presentation and for welcoming us to
25 Kenora.

1 I forgot to tell you in the introduction
2 that the end of the hearing is now scheduled for
3 December, 1992 which is a year this December.

4 The Board doesn't have any questions for
5 you. Are there any questions from the audience?

6 Ms. Blastorah?

7 MS. BLASTORAH: Just one, Mrs. Koven.

8 Mr. Duggan, I understand that in addition
9 to appearing -- or I appreciate that you're appearing
10 here for the Mayor of Kenora today, but I understand
11 that you yourself are Executive Director of Sunset
12 Country, which I understand to be one of the largest
13 tourism associations in the area.

14 MR. DUGGAN: Yes. Sunset Country Travel
15 Association is a regional promotional body coorindates
16 all tourism activities basically from Thunder Bay west.
17 We are one of 12 associations.

18 MS. BLASTORAH: So I take it then you're
19 well familiar with tourism issues in the area?

20 MR. DUGGAN: Yes, I certainly am.

21 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you. That was my
22 only question.

23 MR. DUGGAN: Fine.

24 MR. MARTEL: I would like to ask you a
25 question with that bit of background knowledge. We

1 have heard in every community we've been in the concern
2 of the tourist industry that it's losing its lakes once
3 access occurs. On the other hand, we're faced with a
4 decision as to how one goes about ensuring logging and
5 so on and, at the same time, protect the tourist
6 industry. How does one do that?

7 MR. DUGGAN: Well, I believe that the
8 system is in place at this time, the regulations are
9 there, the binders are a lot thicker than this hearing
10 will ever produce in the years that you've been sitting
11 with regards to the regulations that the forest
12 industry has in order to cut.

13 As a Councillor I had the opportunity a
14 year ago to tour a facility in the north cutting area,
15 we flew into an area and to my amazement and
16 explanation by the resource people that were there as
17 to what requirements were required for them to cross
18 spawning areas, and we physically visited a number of
19 spawning areas where I would suggest to you that they
20 left the spawning area in better shape than the nature
21 did after they've crossed the river.

22 That whole day that we spent up north was
23 very educational from my point of view, having a very
24 detailed background in tourism, but doing the tour as a
25 Councillor gave me insight as to what is really going

1 on in the forest, and it is disappointing to me that a
2 number of people that are discussing this matter over
3 the years that you've been here really don't get that
4 chance to go out and see what's being done and how the
5 forest is actually being reforested and put back into
6 shape.

7 And, again, the fact is that we are a
8 believer in the multi-use facility. The tourist
9 industry has its concerns and I have been at those
10 meetings with them and I think that we've come a long
11 way with the forest industry and with the different
12 ministries involved, specifically the Ministry of
13 Natural Resources, to meet those requirements so that
14 the wilderness experience can still be had and also the
15 opportunities for forestry.

16 The regulations are there that indicate
17 buffer zones and a number of hours of work have gone
18 into public meetings with regards to open roads and
19 forestry roads and the direction that they'll take the
20 and the thousands dollars that are spent by the
21 Ministry and by the forest company to deviate from an
22 outpost camp. In this area there's been specific
23 examples and I'm sure there's going to be a number of
24 people that will follow me to indicate that there is a
25 good communication between the two.

1 I might say in closing that there's
2 always the horror story that someone will come and take
3 the headline and say, you know, the tree farmer cut
4 right to the lake and deviated from the rules. It is
5 my suggestion that the rules are there and the
6 watchguard system with the Ministry of Natural
7 Resources and the forestry themselves are in place I
8 believe.

9 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Duggan.

10 Are Mr. and Mrs. Bedard here?

11 (no response)

12 We'll call on Mr. and Mrs. Bedard in case
13 they join us later.

14 Is Mr. Howard Adams here?

15 Good afternoon, Mr. Adams.

16 HOWARD ADAMS, Sworn

17 MADAM CHAIR: We will assign Mr. Adams'
18 exhibit Exhibit No. 1839.

19 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1839: Written presentation by Mr.
20 Howard Adams.

21 MADAM CHAIR: Please go ahead.

22 MR. ADAMSON: Good afternoon, ladies and
23 gentlemen. My name is Howard Adams, I'm the General
24 Manager of Trilake Timber Company. We're a sawmill and
25 pulpwood orientated company. Our mill operation

1 employs approximately 40 people and our bush operation
2 approximately 30.

3 Our cutting areas are chosen by the
4 Ministry of Natural Resources to best utilize the wood
5 for sawmill operation, wood that is too small or low
6 quality is sorted for pulpwood and sent to local area
7 pulp mills. Each individual tree is sorted to quality,
8 length and diameter before being sent to the sawmill.
9 We are in a sense farmers and, therefore, sort our
10 forest products as such.

11 Everyone assumes all trees are healthy as
12 they stand in the bush, but a certain percentage are
13 not because of the soil type, terrain, bugs and plain
14 old age. I've looked at a good many trees before and
15 after they have been harvested and have been very
16 surprised in what they have shown. Trees that are
17 large in diameter but old in age with huge holes in the
18 centres of the butt and running three quarters of the
19 length of the tree, if our forests are left too long
20 before the harvest, this is the result. I don't
21 believe a farmer would allow his crop to rot in the
22 field when there's a need for it.

23 Mother Nature takes her toil on the
24 forest every year, large areas are lost to fires, bugs
25 and wind. It seems some of the areas that are usually

1 hit are the oldest, more or less saying it's time for
2 new growth.

3 Three years ago a wind storm blew down a
4 huge area north of Vermilion Bay, Ontario. The efforts
5 by Boise Cascade (Canada), Canadian Pacific Forest
6 Product and a local contractor to salvage this area
7 before it was lost was remarkable. Our company
8 participated in the salvage effort and realized what
9 could have been lost had there been no demand.

10 From this wood came lumber for homes,
11 cottages, decks and many more wood-related products to
12 come. If you go back to this area five years from now
13 you would see new growth has taken the place of an area
14 that had been lost to disaster.

15 In the 17 years I have been involved in
16 the logging industry I have covered many miles of bush
17 on foot. The satisfaction of watching an area
18 harvested, treated and brought back as a young forest
19 gives you the feeling the cycle has been completed.
20 Many of the workers in the bush return there on
21 weekends for hunting, fishing and generally relaxation.

22 Our family has travelled the same logging
23 road to our summer camp for the past eight years. The
24 road has passed many cutting areas which are now
25 abundant with young growth.

1 The loggers have been marked by many
2 different groups as rapists of our forest, yet they do
3 not look back on history to see where the loggers were
4 the cowboys of the north. The past is easily forgotten
5 by people who had no part in it.

6 I recently had a chance to walk through
7 the sawmill at Temagami, look at the idle equipment and
8 yet picture the workers doing a job they were happy in
9 doing and thinking of the days ahead. Well, we all
10 know what happened. The time that was spent on closing
11 Temagami maybe could have been better spent on
12 understanding industry and working together on a
13 workable solution.

14 People do not hesitate to pick up a board
15 to repair their cottage or recreation room at their
16 home or pick up their local paper Monday through
17 Sunday. The thought is as long as logging doesn't
18 happen in my backyard it's okay.

19 Logging is a must if we are to manage our
20 natural resources to its best potential. Anyone who
21 has spent a considerable time in the cutting areas can
22 see wildlife moving into cut areas for feed. Wildlife
23 has always thrived and multiplied in numbers because of
24 the environment cut-overs create.

25 The Ministry of Natural Resources

1 foresters must be released from the mounds of paperwork
2 that confront them daily and be released to practice
3 what they were trained for, looking after the forest.

4 Cut approvals and permits that used to
5 take two to three days are now tied up in red tape for
6 weeks. We're an industry struggling for survival with
7 escalating costs and decreasing prices for our
8 products. Many of the sawmill and logging companies in
9 Ontario, big or small, are comprised of proud and hard
10 working people.

11 The industry cannot afford any more
12 Temagamis. There is more than enough land base in
13 Ontario for all groups. Multiple use has to be
14 practised, no one group should have a monopoly on any
15 natural resource yet, in the same sense, no one group
16 should be able to dictate the rights and wrongs unless
17 they have all the facts. Let's work together.

18 Thank you.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Adams.

20 Mr. Adams, has it been the experience of
21 Devlin Timber -- or excuse me, Trilake Timber. Is it
22 Trilake Timber or ---

23 MR. ADAMS: Trilake is part of Devlin.

24 MADAM CHAIR: Of the Devlin group?

25 MR. ADAMS: Yes.

1 MADAM CHAIR: Has it been your experience
2 that you have sufficient supply in the area? Do you
3 have any concerns about wood supply?

4 MR. ADAMS: No, our sawmill uses many
5 different sizes of wood so we're not compelled to use
6 all big or all small, so we feel with the current
7 regeneration practices that are going on now there will
8 be more than enough growth.

9 I believe the way the forestry is
10 managing the forest as to selective cutting just coming
11 in now, where they're just taking certain trees out of
12 a cutting area and by governing it to age and growth, I
13 believe there's more than enough.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. And one other
15 question. In the beginning of your submission you
16 talked about -- you gave me the impression that you
17 were talking about areas allocated for harvest and when
18 you went in what the actual volumes were were maybe a
19 little different than you thought at the outset.

20 MR. ADAMS: No. We take each area and
21 treat it more or less, like I stated, as a farmer and
22 crop and we manage it as such. We don't take a log
23 that is of good quality and good sawmill material and
24 deliver it to pulpwood for paper, we select out the
25 product that will make the best wood product and

1 anything that is of old age or crooked that will not
2 make a sawmill log, it is sent to the pulp mill.

3 MADAM CHAIR: All right, thank you.

4 Are there any questions for Mr. Adams?

5 MR. CASSIDY: I have a couple.

6 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Cassidy?

7 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

8 Mr. Adams, you indicated at the beginning
9 that you employ I believe 40 people in your sawmill; is
10 that right?

11 MR. ADAMS: That's right.

12 MR. CASSIDY: Are those full-time year
13 round jobs?

14 MR. ADAMS: We try to run full time, we
15 sometimes get into a spring situation where the bush is
16 too wet and we can't get logs out of the bush, as we
17 are in right now, it's kind of damp out, so we're
18 having...

19 MR. CASSIDY: But the intent is that
20 those are full-time year round jobs, they're not
21 seasonal jobs?

22 MR. ADAMS: No, we try to run 12 months a
23 year. Our logging runs usually about 11 months of the
24 year.

25 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you.

1 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you very
2 much, Mr. Adams.

3 We will call on Mr. Chris Poate?

4 Good afternoon, Mr Poate.

5 CHRIS POATE, Sworn

6 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. Please be
7 seated.

8 MR. POATE: My name is Chris Poate, I am
9 the First Vice-President of the Kenora District Chamber
10 of Commerce. I'm supposed to have some other members
11 of the Chamber of Commerce, specifically the President
12 Jim Dunphy here today, but since I'm approximately 45
13 minutes ahead of my scheduled time, if he had any
14 disclaimers in my testimony he'll have to make them
15 later.

16 I would first like to say that we are in
17 support of the presentation of NOACC which you received
18 earlier in Toronto and I won't bother to go over that
19 information.

20 Also, the significance of the forest
21 industry in this community I'm sure will be dealt with
22 by our economic development officer Mr. David Treusch
23 later on, so I also won't dwell on that.

24 I have been involved in this process
25 since 1988 when I went to Quetico Centre from the

1 seminar of Northwestern Associated Chambers of Commerce
2 on the Class Environmental Assessment on forestry, and
3 from that seminar I think much of what you received
4 from NOACC and Northwest Association was gleaned, and
5 I've had quite a bit of time, quite a bit more time
6 than I thought I would have, to prepare my thoughts and
7 my feelings regarding this and I, therefore, decided to
8 come forward today with a bit of my history and the
9 things that I've learned here. I don't think anything
10 is radically different from what the Chamber of
11 Commerce could support.

12 My history is that I was born and raised
13 in Sault Lake City, Utah. When I was in high school I
14 developed a great deal of interest in wilderness,
15 backpacking in those days was extremely popular and I
16 spent a lot of time in the wilderness in the Rocky
17 Mountain area.

18 After high school I went to the National
19 Outdoor Leadership School and that is a school in
20 Lander, Wyoming which whole basis in existence is to
21 teach people to use the wilderness in such a way as to
22 cause absolutely no damage or sign of their presence
23 there. The man who started that named Paul Penzoldt,
24 he's the gentleman who for years climbed the Grand
25 Teton every New Year's eve - and people might have

1 heard of him - and he saw a need because of the limited
2 wilderness areas in the United States that they needed
3 to train people to use them, to use them in such a way
4 as not cause any long-term damage to the environment in
5 those areas and to the aesthetic considerations.

6 Because of this interest I then went to
7 university, Utah State University where I studied
8 forestry and environmental studies. I studied there
9 ecology, college level biology, forestry courses like
10 dendrology and silviculture, outdoor recreation,
11 watershed management, that type of thing, and the
12 environmental studies is sort of a liberal arts and
13 natural resources course.

14 I left university before I graduated
15 because -- well, the No. 1 reason I gave was that
16 nobody was getting a job in forestry where I came from
17 and I decided to pursue a career in carpentry, which is
18 more or less a family trade. I made that decision
19 because I knew as a carpenter I would be able to choose
20 exactly where I wanted to live, and that's what I have
21 been doing ever since.

22 I guess also if I really think about it,
23 also the problem I had of seeing what foresters
24 themselves have to go through. You see, in carpentry I
25 get the immediate gratification. My work is complete,

1 it is either right or wrong and I'm either paid or not
2 paid at that point and I know whether I have done a
3 good job or not done a good job.

4 I'm sure immediate gratification is
5 something you would like to see in your future.

6 MADAM CHAIR: It's too late for that.

7 MR. POATE: I saw what foresters have to
8 go through. I know most of the ones I dealt with are
9 in that particular profession because they care about
10 the environment, they enjoy being out in the forest,
11 they enjoy that type of life and, of course, now it
12 seems that they're -- you know, ever since the woodsman
13 spared that tree I guess there is nowhere they can work
14 or do their particular profession without having to be
15 in constant communication with Boards like this and to
16 be under the scrutiny of so many different people.

17 I know so many foresters here in
18 toastmasters so they don't get beat up at hearings like
19 this. I find that to be kind of surprising. They
20 reinvigorated a toastmasters club in Kenora -
21 foresters.

22 At any rate, I moved. As I said, I chose
23 carpentry because I could live anywhere and I was able
24 to get my status in Canada through certain means. I
25 moved here because my -- I had some connection through

1 family in the area and I didn't think that I would
2 always stay here. I thought I would probably live here
3 for a while and then move out west. That was my
4 intention, to go back to the mountains, but I found
5 after travelling many different places out west and
6 back to areas that I came from in the States that this
7 actually has become home and this is my little blurb I
8 guess, Chamber of Commerce toward Kenora.

9 Kenora is the type of place where people
10 like to live. There are a lot of professionals who
11 have parked their career here and decided not to go
12 somewhere else because they like it here.

13 We don't have a problem in Kenora, I
14 don't perceive - and I heard this from people in the
15 education field - that the young people want to stay in
16 Kenora and will stay in Kenora. We don't have to talk
17 to them -- for the most part we don't have to talk them
18 into staying and trying to establish their lives here
19 in Kenora. It's that type of place; people leave
20 Kenora, they come back.

21 When I came here I brought with me all
22 the attitudes I had toward cutting wood. I'd heard and
23 thought about all the horror stories of the -- well,
24 one that struck my mind just when I was thinking about
25 this presentation was the cedars of Lebanon and how the

1 Roman Empire had totally destroyed all those forests in
2 North Africa and Lebanon.

3 I come from a place in Utah, which is
4 similar. If they cut trees in Utah they don't grow
5 back. Erosion takes over and they just don't come
6 back.

7 I heard about the great boreal forest and
8 how it disappeared in Michigan and Wisconsin and I know
9 about their redwood trees, clearcutting trees that were
10 so many hundreds and hundreds of years old. I have
11 been through the rain forest in Washington, Oregon,
12 seen the big Douglas fir trees which are also hundreds
13 and hundreds of years old and I brought that with me
14 here and to be quite frank, when I first arrived here I
15 didn't particularly like what I saw in forestry.

16 I didn't like to see the harvesting, I
17 didn't like to see clearcuts. I had an attitude, I
18 guess, that the forest companies were going to finally
19 cut over what was left of the great boreal forest.
20 Then after I was here for a few years - I moved here in
21 '76 - Fire 23 - Mark Duggan referred to Fire 23 - it
22 rolled through the area. After about a year I was
23 driving by there and I realized to myself that it
24 looked quite a bit like a lot of the clearcuts I had
25 seen and the growth was coming back, and then a light

1 came on that I really didn't know that what I had been
2 looking at was a clearcut or the result of a forest
3 fire in a lot of areas.

4 It began to dawn on me that this area --
5 the great boreal forest in the United States would have
6 grown back, but a conscious decision was made that it
7 would be turned into farmland and eventually paved over
8 and turned into residential areas in a lot areas, but
9 it is a resilient forest and would have come back. Not
10 like the forest that I knew out in Utah or perhaps the
11 one in the middle east. I think the climates are sort
12 of similar.

13 I began to get an attitude and a
14 realization that the harvesting techniques used here in
15 clearcutting were a close mimic of the natural process
16 of forest fires. I still don't agree with the
17 harvesting of huge Douglas fir trees in rain forests or
18 clearcutting in redwood forests because I don't see
19 those areas as being an area where forest fires
20 naturally would thin those trees out.

21 They can't reach that age without having
22 survived -- without having the ability to survive
23 forest fires, which red trees do, they are fire
24 resistant, or an area where the forest fire never
25 occurs which is like the rain forest.

1 So I suppose if I was out in those areas
2 you might find me chained to a tree somewhere. That
3 doesn't apply in our area here. I have come to the
4 realization over these many years now I have been here
5 that the forestry practices as carried out now and as
6 outlined I guess in the document that the Natural
7 Resources has presented, from my understanding of
8 ecology, those practices do no significant damage to
9 the ecosystem of our area, probably because it is such
10 a vast area.

11 I'm used to much smaller areas of forest
12 I guess and most people in the United States are, but
13 also because these practices do mimic the natural
14 burning that occurs -- that will occur so many -- every
15 80 to 150 years anyway in the forest. In other words,
16 there is not no old growth in our boreal forest like
17 people on the west coast would understand old growth.
18 It just doesn't happen here.

19 As far as environmental damage, I suppose
20 if you consider the aesthetics of wilderness and you're
21 standing on a logging road looking at a freshly cut and
22 scarified area, I suppose at that point then you begin
23 to understand that it doesn't look very good, but you
24 have to say to yourself: In our area, if it weren't
25 for the logging road...

1 (Fire alarm goes off)

2 Do we have to evacuate?

3 ---Discussion off the record

4 MADAM CHAIR: Apparently the lightening
5 activated the system and we are supposed to just wait a
6 minute or two and it will be turned off.

7 Please continue, Mr. Poate.

8 MR. POATE: I believe we were standing on
9 a logging road looking at a freshly cut-over area - and
10 I was mentioning the aesthetics of the wilderness
11 environment - and my realization on that is if it
12 wasn't for the logging road there would be no way I
13 would be there anyway.

14 This area doesn't lend itself to
15 wilderness travel other than on water or by flying.
16 For somebody to say that it doesn't look that good when
17 they're flying over, it doesn't look natural when
18 they're flying over it begs the question of, as far as
19 wilderness aesthetics, is flying over it actually a
20 wilderness type of thing to do. I mean, in a bird's
21 eye view is it not in a wilderness sense left up to the
22 birds.

23 When I say it didn't cause any damage to
24 the ecosystem, what I mean is there is no massive
25 change from the indigenous species to a totally

1 different type or fundamentally different species as
2 what happened in Michigan and Wisconsin, I guess, and
3 also in several other areas where I have lived out in
4 the west.

5 I'm going to leave that particular train
6 for a minute and mention three things that have been
7 impressed upon me lately when I think about the forest
8 industry. The first thing is, when I travel back to
9 the United States, everywhere I go I see recycling,
10 recycling bins behind schools, recycling trees,
11 recycling newspaper, recycling -- a photocopier. I
12 should have taken a picture but I didn't get around to
13 it, but it had a little label on a photocopying machine
14 by the University of Utah and it said: Due to customer
15 demand we use nothing but recycled paper here. That
16 presents a definite threat to the amount of paper that
17 will be used in the future.

18 The second thing is, of course, the
19 problem in the landfill sites throughout the United
20 States. Archaeologists who have been exploring
21 landfills now discovered that the amount of paper in
22 landfill sites has doubled as a percentage of the total
23 in landfill sites since the 1940's, and I guess in 1970
24 35 per cent of the landfill was paper and now 50 per
25 cent in our present time is paper.

1 When the greater population, the public,
2 when they get a hold of that, there will be even more
3 of a press to eliminate as much as possible the use of
4 paper, the waste of paper as far as landfill sites.

5 The next thing and I think the most
6 ominous, when I was at Quetico I said the next thing
7 that is going to happen is everybody is going to have a
8 reader; that is, a magnetic disk reader. I hadn't seen
9 one, but I could foresee it coming and then a year or
10 so again on CNN I saw a Sony Readman. It's about the
11 size of a walkman and it flips open and has a little
12 liquid screen and it holds three hundred books. It
13 will puruse the contents to find where to look up what
14 you are looking for.

15 We are creating a generation of young
16 people who don't have a problem with magnetic storage
17 like the previous generation coming into the computer
18 age would like to see the hard copy, would like to see
19 the computer print-outs on paper and a lot of landfill
20 sites have those. That is going to change in the
21 future.

22 Also, newspapers are all on magnetic
23 storage now and only put on newsprint at the last step.
24 Telephone directories for sure. In the City of Los
25 Angeles you can have -- to cover the whole valley you

1 can have a stack of telephone directories four feet
2 high. They will lend themselves perfectly to magnetic
3 storage in the future.

4 So I have seen coming in my mind that
5 this is a threat to the forest industry, the pulp and
6 paper industry specifically in our area, and that there
7 is going to be a smaller market in the future for paper
8 products particularly. So in that sense, this forestry
9 environmental assessment and the Environmental
10 Assessment Board very definitely have in your hands the
11 ability to snuff out the forest industry in Ontario.

12 Those are strong words, but it is going
13 to become so competitive in the future that if we do
14 not create a climate in which our companies can compete
15 that there is going to be a very -- it is going to be
16 very hard for them to stay in business. In order to
17 compete they would have to be able to get the raw
18 material in a timely and economical fashion.

19 I have also seen in the last 15 years up
20 here in understanding Canada, I have seen certain
21 things which quite disturbed me and that is with the
22 environmental movement, which I don't disassociate
23 myself from, but yet I have seen -- the No. 1 instance
24 I guess was the white coat seal hunt in Newfoundland.
25 I go back and talk to people that I knew in Salt Lake

1 City and many people in Canada about the fact that this
2 was the largest single species population of mammals on
3 earth and is no way endangered, and that if they
4 eliminated that hunt that the Government of Canada
5 would be forced into the position of having to thin the
6 herd by paying to have it done instead of it being
7 thinned by the people who have been doing it for over a
8 century, but it didn't matter.

9 So people in areas of the world who
10 routinely destroy ecosystems -- and, again, I come from
11 an area where they are moving vast amounts of water
12 from the places where the water is to the places where
13 the people are instead of vice versa and thereby
14 destroying entire ecosystems. There is no danger to
15 the single species of seals in Newfoundland, but there
16 are dangers to many species and extinction of many
17 species and destruction of total ecosystems down in
18 those states, but yet they will -- rather than address
19 that issue four square, they will destroy this
20 particular seal hunt and what would essentially be a
21 sentimental sort of thing.

22 I have seen also the fur trapping
23 industry in the north destroyed by the same type of
24 mentality. Our native people have never and will never
25 drive any species to extinction that I can think about

1 or foresee, but yet then we see people those in Vale or
2 Aspen voting on resolutions to eliminate the use of
3 fur.

4 From my experience in wilderness, we talk
5 about the National Outdoor Leadership School teaching
6 very low impact camping; Vale and Aspen, we're talking
7 about extremely high impact camping there. For them to
8 be turning their sights away from what they do to the
9 environment and focusing on these issues, which are
10 easy targets, seems to me the thing from the Gospel
11 that Jesus said about removing the log from your own
12 eye before you look at the speck in your neighbour's
13 eye applies in these cases very much.

14 I've seen the danger of the same thing
15 happening in the forest industry and it's happening
16 quite vigorously throughout the United States and there
17 is maybe going to get -- try and get a little bit of a
18 hold in this area in Ontario. Again, it is based on
19 more sentiment than on fact that the forests are in no
20 danger of extinction or destruction; they do grow back.

21 The people I think of the large
22 metropolitan areas seem to forget - I'm not now talking
23 specifically of the Toronto area - they seem to forget
24 where the wealth of this province comes from and to a
25 great extent it comes from the forest industry.

1 There are concerns about wilderness
2 areas, and I have an interest in wilderness. I have a
3 map I would like to show, if I could. This is a map of
4 northwestern Ontario with the State of Wyoming
5 superimposed over the top of it. I chose Wyoming
6 because Wyoming is well known in the United States as a
7 place where there's lots of wilderness.

8 Well, Wyoming, when I superimposed it, I
9 showed at the bottom here where the area of the
10 undertaking of the forest environmental assessment
11 includes maybe that little bit here and this little bit
12 here. The rest is wilderness and always will remain
13 wilderness. Well, I shouldn't say always, but in the
14 foreseeable future. I think if they were to try to put
15 roads into any of this area without giving us a
16 TransCanada Highway that's driveable there would be a
17 revolt in northwestern Ontario anyway.

18 By looking at this map I feel justified
19 in saying that there is more wilderness involved in
20 northwestern Ontario de facto, will remain wilderness,
21 than there is in the official wilderness system of the
22 entire United States, continental United States, not
23 including Alaska. I took this map to -- would you like
24 to have it?

25 MADAM CHAIR: All right. We will take

1 that as an exhibit, Mr. Poate. This will be Exhibit
2 1840.

3 MR. POATE: You don't have to.

4 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1840: Map of northwestern Ontario with
5 the State of Wyoming superimposed
over the top of it.

6 MR. POATE: I took that map with me, or a
7 reasonable facsimile, to the 25th anniversary of our
8 National Leadership School last summer in Lander,
9 Wyoming. I took it there and did the same thing with
10 the superimposing of the borders of Wyoming over that
11 to show that -- to demonstrate to a lot of those people
12 who were there that are wilderness advocates from all
13 the United States just the kind of area that exists in
14 northwestern Ontario that people aren't really even
15 aware of, I don't think, even throughout the world.
16 They don't think of this area as being as vast as it is
17 and having as much opportunity for wilderness
18 experience as it has.

19 In fact, that much wilderness is probably
20 intimidating to the most ardent wilderness users. It
21 is so huge that I can't see -- I can't in mind conceive
22 of any shortage of wilderness in the foreseeable future
23 for this particular ecosystem.

24 I see wilderness as a commodity, as a
25 potential for northwestern Ontario and for large

1 portions of Canada. Wilderness is an economic
2 commodity, is not something that's discussed in the
3 United States. It's not understood, but there is so
4 much available in Canada that it could be a very
5 fundamental part of the economy of Canada at some
6 future date and that's what I was -- my actually
7 thought on this was that those native communities which
8 have been hard hit by the lost of the fur trapping
9 industry could perhaps find new means of economic
10 employment by making people more aware of the
11 wilderness opportunities that exist north of the areas
12 involved in this undertaking.

13 So at any rate I will wrap up now with my
14 final thoughts regarding the process. I came to a
15 meeting just a couple of weeks back with an attitude
16 that this particular process had gotten out of hand,
17 that we couldn't afford it in this province, but then
18 it was pointed out to me that down in the United States
19 all of these things are ending up in the courts.

20 So, therefore, I started to develop a
21 little more positive outlook towards what is happening
22 here and I began to realize that it is very possible
23 that what you will come up with at the end of these
24 hearings in your final decisions will be the means for
25 the forest industry in Ontario being able to be in

1 production and profitably in production while the
2 competitors to the south are locked in litigation and
3 in legal battles.

4 I began to see that what seems like a
5 massive amount of time could be saved probably a
6 hundredfold and although the amount of time involved
7 with the lawyers in these hearings - and lawyers are
8 always getting beat up in these things too for the
9 amount of time they are perceived to have used or
10 whatever - all of that can all be saved in the future a
11 hundredfold by keeping all these things out of the
12 courts, out of litigation; that is, it is very possible
13 that you will produce through this hearing process a
14 class environmental assessment on forestry that will be
15 key to keeping the industry vibrant and alive in
16 Ontario.

17 So I will close by saying it is my prayer
18 that that will happen and I will keep you and all of
19 the process in my prayers until it is completed. I
20 wish you well and I do thank you very much for hearing
21 my presentation today and thank you, I think, from all
22 the people of the forest industry and Ontario for all
23 the time that you probably didn't realize you were
24 going to have to put into this.

25 Thank you.

1 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
2 Poate.

3 Are there any questions from the audience
4 for Mr. Poate?

5 MR. MARTEL: Can I ask just one question.
6 You mentioned three items and the reduction in the
7 volume of fiber that might be needed as a result of
8 recycling, landfill sites and magnetic storage.

9 FROM THE AUDIENCE: We can't hear you.

10 MR. MARTEL: Let me repeat that then. I
11 don't know if people can hear me.

12 You mentioned three things which are
13 interfering with the use of fiber: recycling, landfill
14 sites and magnetic storage. You are not suggesting,
15 however, that we should put those aside in order to
16 maintain the increasing amount of wood that's required;
17 are you?

18 MR. POATE: Well, I don't think that
19 that's going -- to put them aside is not going to
20 happen. In the United States in particular, the
21 landfill site issue will require that recycling take
22 place, it will require that less paper be used and let
23 people get used to magnetic storage. It will just
24 happen. It's not something that could be stopped
25 anymore than you can stop what happened to the seal

1 herd or to the fur trapping industry, I guess.

2 I have an opinion, though, for Toronto -
3 and I was going to mention this - but for the Toronto
4 council who passed that resolution requiring recycled
5 paper of all the newspaper down in Toronto in a sense
6 forgets where that paper comes from and where the
7 wealth of this province lies.

8 Recycling of newsprint, there is a
9 break-off point somewhere down in the United States
10 somewhere, but I don't think it lies in Toronto. That
11 is an opinion, I guess.

12 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
13 Poate.

14 Before we call on our next speaker, I
15 forget to tell you that everything we say is being
16 recorded by our court reporters, Marilyn Callaghan and
17 Beverley Dillabough, and if you want to read a copy of
18 today's session or any of the others that the Board has
19 held you can find those in your library and at the
20 Ministry of Natural Resources' offices here in Kenora.

21 Are Mr. and Mrs. Bidard here?

22 (no response)

23 Mr. Anderson? Mr. Douglas Anderson?

24 (no response)

25 Mr. Robert Horley?

1 (no response)

2 Yes, sir?

3 FROM THE AUDIENCE: Mr. and Mrs. Bedard
4 are right here.

5 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. and Mrs. Bedard, would
6 you like to give your presentation now?

7 MR. BEDARD: This is just going to be
8 verbal.

9 MADAM CHAIR: That's fine, Mr. Bedard.
10 Everything we say is recorded by the reporters.

11 MR. BEDARD: I understand this last
12 gentleman say that our forests will last forever and
13 for the last 50 years they have been cutting down
14 forests and not planting a tree. And all of sudden now
15 they are coming out with a bunch of little bundles of
16 trees and they're handing them out to people and
17 encouraging people to plant trees.

18 They should have been doing that a
19 hundred years ago when they started this, at least from
20 1919 when they started the pulp mill up here. The
21 lumbermen have to go 200 miles north to get trees.

22 As I see it right now -- get me?

23 MADAM CHAIR: Yes, we are, Mr. Bedard.

24 MR. BEDARD: As I see it right now this
25 is a -- they want to get lower down here in our trees

1 from all across the southern part, they want to take
2 all our trees out and they should be planting trees and
3 they haven't done that.

4 In northern Africa there was lots of
5 forests in the past; there's no forests there any more.
6 In the land of Egypt and in Israel, Lebanon, there was
7 lots of forests; there's no more forests there. You've
8 got to plant trees if you want to harvest trees.

9 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

10 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much for
11 coming, Mr. Bedard.

12 We call on Mr. Robert Horley?

13 ROBERT HORLEY, Sworn

14 MADAM CHAIR: Good afternoon, Mr. Horley.

15 We will now hear from Mr. Horley, and Mr.
16 Horley has given the Board a six-page written
17 presentation and we will assign this presentation
18 Exhibit 1841.

19 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1841: Six-page written presentation by
20 Mr. Robert Horley.

21 MS. BLASTORAH: What was the number, Mrs.
22 Koven?

23 MADAM CHAIR: 1841.

24 MS. BLASTORAH: Thanks.

25 MR. HORLEY: Ladies and gentlemen, Madam

1 Chairperson, my name is Robert Horley. My address is
2 Sioux Narrows. I appreciate the opportunity of
3 addressing the committee.

4 As you people have probably gathered, the
5 main employment in northwestern Ontario is in the
6 natural resources industries be it logging, fishing
7 trapping or outfitting.

8 We are all making our living from the
9 same land base, preservation, sustainability,
10 cooperation, regeneration is a must for all of us. It
11 has always been this way here.

12 My grandfather was among the first
13 homesteaders in the Rainy River District in the middle
14 of the last half of the last century. He came as a
15 young man, spent his entire life wrestling a livelihood
16 from the pine forests of that area to establish his
17 homestead.

18 I can still remember him as a man in his
19 late 80s telling stories of the monstrous logs they
20 harvested, of the Sioux Indian scares, of the local
21 Indians friendships, the sturgeon fishing, of the mills
22 of the Rainy River and Baudette and the monstrous
23 fires that had wiped out or burned to death many of his
24 neighbours.

25 I remember seeing a picture of him and

1 his oxen team cross-wise of the newly laid CN tracks
2 around 1900. Later my father, after he returned from
3 the first world war, spent all the summers of the next
4 two decades fighting fires in the Quetico by canoe,
5 shovel, pump and pack.

6 He eventually became Deputy Chief Fire
7 Ranger for the grand sum of \$3 a day. Then during the
8 30s he was game warden here on the Lake of the Woods
9 south end and using dog team in the winter and square
10 stern canoe in the summer.

11 These were the days of the large
12 commercial fishing operations and the fur farmers. It
13 also was the beginning of the tourist outfitters and
14 the winter logger turned summer guide for \$5 a day and
15 more.

16 As you see we had to work to survive,
17 many of us doing different things depending on the
18 season, but we were all totally involved in this world
19 be it as a labourer or an employer, we lived here and
20 helped each other.

21 By the mid 40s my turn came to start as a
22 logger in winter and a guide in summer. We cut wood
23 with horses and Swede saws for \$1.75 a cord. Our board
24 was \$1.75 a day, a pair of boots was \$11, a pair of
25 socks \$2.

1 Then came the skidder and the increased
2 emphasis on regeneration and cutting, also new
3 regulations on fishing to preserve our natural
4 resources for the future. People who had to live in an
5 environment and raise their families soon learned to
6 care for that environment.

7 As time passed many new influences have
8 been introduced, some of them by people who were here
9 for only a short while. This is when caution must be
10 even more carefully observed. It is my hope that in
11 the specific area of the Aulneau Peninsula that we do
12 not exclude the people who make their living in the
13 area from the environment they have worked in and cared
14 for for more than four generations. It is easy to get
15 caught up in a mass of theory and forget the people.

16 The following few paragraphs were set
17 forth as a response based on the experience of the past
18 45 years of logging.

19 "There is no teacher as good as working
20 in an environment one lives in for 365
21 days a year. There are many ways in
22 cutting a stand of timber to make nature
23 help in its own regeneration,
24 particularly when we have the use of
25 four-wheel drive skidders with chains on

1 the tires. The very movement of that
2 machine skidding and delimbing the trees
3 as they are moved from stump to landing
4 gets a seed into the ground for future
5 forest growth."

6 The following few pararaphs are taken
7 from an article I wrote to the people of Sioux Narrows
8 about the Aulneau in December of last year and goes as
9 follows:

10 "The people of Sioux Narrows are being
11 asked to make some very critical
12 judgments on which way the future use of
13 the Aulneau Peninsula is to go. This
14 land mass of a thousand square kilometres
15 in the centre of Lake of the Woods is our
16 main wilderness out back for the future
17 of our area. There are no permanent
18 roads or Hydro lines or mining
19 developments in the entire area. The
20 only activity that has gone on is
21 small-scale logging on a yearly basis for
22 over 50 years and some hunting and
23 trapping in the fall.

24 Almost 50 years ago when I first
25 started hunting and trapping and logging

1 on it the moose population was possibly
2 50 to 60 animals. A skilled hunter with
3 a high powered rifle and two or three
4 weeks of arduous hunting might get a
5 moose each year.

6 As the logging continued the newly
7 cleared forest lands led an annual fire
8 of 6,000 boards cut in three four
9 locations provided a new food area for
10 the moose.

11 The practice of continued
12 reforestation and only short haul roads
13 to the lakeshore booming grounds seemed
14 to be the best environment. Some forest
15 renewal and lots of cover for food
16 remained.

17 As the years went by one of our
18 biggest headaches in the winter hauling
19 was to watch out for these animals,
20 particularly as the snow got deep and
21 the wolves got bolder. The practice of
22 using the water to haul the wood away in
23 the spring did not leave permanent road
24 structures that logging caused in other
25 areas and the consequent easy hunter

1 access to what was wilderness area.

2 We now have a population of over
3 600 animals and a very important
4 primitive weapon hunting industry. This
5 is one of the few moose success stories
6 in the country where hunters or viewers
7 can get out in the bush and be quite sure
8 of seeing these animals on a weekly
9 basis.

10 The problem is after over four
11 decades paper companies cease to toll and
12 is in a land only delivery system by
13 large trucks. This leaves the existing
14 contractors a choice of quitting,
15 cross-ice hauling, booming or a
16 combination of the latter two. The last
17 option is really the only choice.

18 The six to 10,000 cord volume in
19 economics is well over \$500,000 and 20
20 some winter jobs spread between three or
21 four contractors. The big loss if this
22 activity is not continued will be the
23 deterioration of the moose environment
24 and a consequent downswing in population.

25 Things have gone so smoothly between

1 user groups for so long that many in
2 Sioux Narrows are just now realizing that
3 we have a problem that doing nothing
4 won't solve. We have the rare situation
5 where all of us can benefit from this
6 legacy.

7 The Aulneau Advisory Planning
8 Committee has spent two years sorting
9 through the options. They have in hand a
10 comprehensive plan where wildlife and
11 wilderness preservation dictates the way
12 to follow using the timber harvest as a
13 management tool only.

14 The people of Sioux Narrows are
15 being asked for their input and
16 blessing to ensure that this plan is a
17 safe, secure cooperation between all
18 industries so no abuses can occur in the
19 chains of balances.

20 I guess we have all to trust each
21 other for the common good. This game and
22 wilderness resource can benefit from the
23 logging activity, so can all the people
24 of the area.

25 Sioux Narrows has been a positive

1 thinking community in the past, they have
2 had the wise guidance of community
3 leaders who can look into the future
4 clearly, a negative response to the idea
5 of logging of providing access
6 possibilities on the main shore to a
7 benefit of no one in the long run.

8 The people of this area built this
9 place in trust, cooperation and
10 I'm sure we'll have the will to continue
11 on this course."

12 Now I go own with my concluding remarks.

13 In conclusion, I'm sure you people have heard many
14 horror stories of timber resources harvested and gone
15 for ever. As it happens, the timber harvested in this
16 area today is already our second crop at least, most of
17 it grown naturally with very little human intervention.
18 It probably is not as good or as big as the first,
19 certainly in large timber, but it also is quite
20 extensive.

21 It is quite hard to believe that with
22 only water, slaves, hand tools, horses flumes, dams, et
23 cetera, that such a vast wild country could have been
24 logged the first time so efficiently.

25 I have just completed a licence near one

1 of these water flumeways of a hundred years ago and
2 just a few days ago while visiting my tourist outfitter
3 neighbour I noticed a set of pictures on his wall.
4 These pictures were of the camp area complete with hue
5 timber cabins and a very familiar escarpment in the
6 background. The pictures were dated 1902.

7 The hill behind in the pictures was the
8 interior boundary of my latest licence. It was
9 thoroughly logged of big white pine and red pine and
10 today that small hill has a 40 to 70-foot tall dense
11 jack pine stand with the occasional large red pine or
12 white pine towering through it.

13 Inbetween the hill and where we stood in
14 the low country we had just finished harvesting almost
15 several thousand cords of budworm damaged spruce and
16 balsam. Some of the spruce were three foot on the
17 stump, a lot of them two foot or more. These trees are
18 the direct result of natural regeneration in a wild
19 unsupervised situation after the first harvest.

20 One of the points I would like to
21 conclude with is: Why are we today in such a panic to
22 virtually ban the logger from the earth when they have
23 all this new regeneration technology available. Maybe
24 we should have a little more faith in nature and
25 ourselves and go into the future with confidence that

1 there will be a third crop of timber regrowing.

2 Also, let us not get things so loused up
3 in far out details that the next generation of loggers
4 or camp owners or whoever won't even try to do anything
5 for themselves unless the government holds their hand
6 and feeds them and guarantees that they can't possibly
7 fail.

8 Again, thank you ladies and gentlemen for
9 allowing me to speak to you today.

10 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
11 Horley.

12 Mr. Horley, were you involved or were you
13 on the Aulneau Advisory Planning Committee?

14 MR. HORLEY: I was one of the members,
15 yes.

16 MADAM CHAIR: And so I understand it very
17 clearly, the proposal from the committee is to continue
18 logging?

19 MR. HORLEY: Yes. The proposal is to
20 continue logging, but you use the logging as a
21 management tool for the game. The game and the
22 wilderness resource is the dominant situation. That's
23 the way it had been working without the regulations
24 that we have now in effect really.

25 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

1 MR. MARTEL: I need something to refresh
2 me. The Aulneau area, is there a park plan in there?

3 MS. BLASTORAH: Mr. Martel, perhaps I
4 could ask a couple of questions of Mr. Horley that
5 would help clarify this and if you wish further
6 clarification, you can let me know.

7 MR. MARTEL: Okay.

8 MS. BLASTORAH: Mr. Horley, I'm correct I
9 think that the Aulneau committee that you were on was
10 an advisory committee in relation to the Aulneau
11 wildlife management plan?

12 MR. HORLEY: That is correct, yes.

13 MS. BLASTORAH: And when you indicated in
14 your presentation that timber harvesting would be a
15 management tool only, can you explain what you meant by
16 that?

17 MR. HORLEY: Well, the way it's phrased,
18 they wanted to assure the other user groups of the
19 Aulneau that -- you know, wilderness is a very
20 important commodity, several of our previous people
21 that were interviewed today have made that point too
22 and they want -- the message wanted to come through
23 loud and clear that the logging was not to pre-empt, be
24 the primary activity so to speak.

25 MS. BLASTORAH: And I believe I'm correct

1 that the Aulneau Peninsula, the primary land use
2 designated in the Kenora District Land Use Guidelines
3 for the Aulneau Peninsula is not forestry but wildlife
4 management; is that correct?

5 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

6 MS. BLASTORAH: And when you indicated
7 that timber harvesting would not be the primary use, am
8 I also correct that the Aulneau Peninsula was deferred
9 from approval during the final approval of the Kenora
10 Crown timber management plan in order to allow
11 completion of the Aulneau wildlife management plan?

12 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

13 Just as an adjunct to what you're
14 expressing in your question, the Aulneau Peninsula had
15 something in the neighbourhood of 500,000 boards
16 removed, you know what I mean, they've been logging
17 that for over half a century.

18 And in the eastern and central half it
19 had something in the neighbourhood of 500,000 cords of
20 wood removed over the last 50 years and, you know, in
21 small parcels; you'd log a chunk, you'd leave a chunk
22 and you would replant it. And the areas that have been
23 logged have regrown to quite substantial, that third
24 crop of timber that I'm talking about is very much in
25 evidence.

1 MS. BLASTORAH: Mr. Horley, one of the
2 others point I understood you to make during your
3 presentation was the importance of involving local
4 people who might be directly affected by activities on
5 the Aulneau Peninsula.

6 Could you give the Board an indication of
7 what other stakeholder groups were represented on the
8 advisory committee?

9 MR. HORLEY: Well, of course, all of the
10 tourist outfitter groups and the environmental, you
11 know, people who were concerned about any activity -
12 what would they be classed as Ian - well, we had
13 several groups that had, you know, any -- a man's tract
14 on the peninsula was already a sacrilege, but there
15 were -- I'd say, pretty well everybody was covered.

16 MS. BLASTORAH: And I understand the
17 First Nations that have interest in the area were also
18 represented on that committee?

19 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

20 MS. BLASTORAH: And I think it's fair to
21 say then that a broad range of interests were
22 represented by committee members; is that fair?

23 MR. HORLEY: I would say so.

24 MS. BLASTORAH: And do you think that was
25 a useful exercise, having an advisory committee of that

1 type?

2 MR. HORLEY: I think that, yes,
3 certainly. I think it's necessary because the
4 perception in some quarters is that the logging
5 industry is the bad boy on the block and quite often
6 the people who make those accusations don't realize
7 that there's a lot out there.

8 And that's one of the reasons I made the
9 point about this growth from the first logging in the
10 1900s in many areas in this country, and my predecessor
11 who was talking about Utah, he made -- this country is
12 such a vast country and it's got its own ecosystems,
13 that given any chance at all, without man's definite
14 intervention to prevent a regrowth of what was there,
15 the chances are that you are going to have another
16 system. The system is large enough that it
17 self-perpetuates itself.

18 MS. BLASTORAH: In relation again to the
19 advisory committee, I believe that that committee is
20 intended to remain in place and participate during the
21 implementation of that wildlife management plan; is
22 that correct?

23 MR. HORLEY: That's what I understand,
24 yes.

25 MS. BLASTORAH: So it is going to be a

1 standing committee, if I can use that phrase?

2 MR. HORLEY: Yes.

3 MS. BLASTORAH: Now, during your
4 presentation you also made mention of the involvement
5 of Sioux Narrows, the community of Sioux Narrows in
6 that.

7 MR. HORLEY: Well, it's -- one of the
8 reasons I dwelt with Sioux Narrows, of course, Sioux
9 Narrows is a place that I live but Morrison and Nestor
10 Falls are equally involved and, you know, Sioux Narrows
11 and -- those three communities are primarily tourist
12 oriented communities and there isn't a great amount of
13 logging involvement as income. So they are -- you
14 know, they are the ones that would probably question,
15 you know, they would give the logging involvement in
16 that area the acid test.

17 MR. HORLEY: And I understand a
18 Councillor from Sioux Narrows was on the advisory
19 committee as well?

20 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

21 MS. BLASTORAH: And there was also a
22 special open house held in Sioux Narrows?

23 MR. HORLEY: That's right.

24 MS. BLASTORAH: And am I correct that
25 there were members of the Ministry of Natural Resources

1 attended at the request of the community of Sioux
2 Narrows to answer questions?

3 MR. HORLEY: That's right.

4 MS. BLASTORAH: I think those are my
5 questions of Mr. Horley.

6 Mr. Martel, did you want any further
7 clarification?

8 MR. MARTEL: No.

9 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you. Thank you,
10 Mr. Horley.

11 MADAM CHAIR: Are there any other
12 questions for Mr. Horley?

13 MR. CASSIDY: Just one.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Cassidy?

15 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 I understand, Mr. Horley, that you also
17 run a tourist establishment in addition to your
18 harvesting activities; is that correct?

19 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

20 MR. CASSIDY: And you have three to four
21 cabins that you operate as a tourist facility?

22 MR. HORLEY: That's correct.

23 MR. CASSIDY: How long have you been in
24 that business, Mr. Horley?

25 MR. HORLEY: Well, this year is 50 years

1 that I've been guiding and we've operated a camp for
2 something -- oh, over 40 years. So I mean, we are --
3 as I said in my presentation, that you don't come from
4 one side of the fence so to speak.

5 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you very much.

6 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

7 Oh, excuse me. Yes, sir, do you have a
8 question for Mr. Horley?

9 FROM THE AUDIENCE: No, I don't have one
10 for Mr. Horley but I have one for the Board.

11 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Well, perhaps
12 we will let Mr. Horley sit down then.

13 FROM THE AUDIENCE: Yes, that's fine.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Horley.

15 FROM THE AUDIENCE: I would just like to
16 ask the Assessment Board how many people they have
17 working on this Board with the experience that Mr.
18 Horley has, that is what I would like to ask, because
19 this is very important to what's happening to our
20 environment, that you need people with the education
21 and experience that Mr. Horley has, not some young guy
22 that comes out of university and thinks he knows it
23 all, because that is very important.

24 MADAM CHAIR: I think that's a good
25 question. I don't know of anyone on the Environmental

1 Assessment Board who has the experience that Mr. Horley
2 has.

3 FROM THE AUDIENCE: Well, maybe somebody
4 should really -- on the Board should put a couple of
5 these type of people on the Board, you know, somebody
6 that has worked with outfitters and everything in the
7 wild, you know. That would really be it, on the Board.

8 MADAM CHAIR: I think that's a good
9 recommendation and I'll pass it off.

10 Well, as Mr. Martel said, we will make
11 that recommendation to Premier Rae.

12 We will now call on -- is Mr. Anderson
13 here, Douglas Anderson?

14 (no response)

15 We'll call on Mr. Richard Thunder and
16 Josephine Mandamin? Are they in the audience?

17 Good afternoon, Mr. Thunder.

18 RICHARD THUNDER, Sworn

19 MADAM CHAIR: The Board will make as an
20 exhibit a letter that Mr. Richard Thunder will read
21 into the record now and it's from the Islington Band
22 Council whose acting Chief is Josephine Mandamin.

23 Go ahead Mr. Thunder.

24 Excuse me, we will make this Exhibit No.
25 1842.

1 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1842: Letter from acting Chief
2 Josephine Mandamin, Islington
3 Band Council, presented by
 Richard Thunder.

4 MR. THUNDER: Thank you, Chair.

5 My name is Richard Thunder, I am with the
6 Bimose Tribal Council, First Nations, Government
7 Advisor.

8 I was just faxed a letter over from the
9 Islington Band Council. Unfortunately they are unable
10 to be here this afternoon because of the community
11 activities that are occurring this date.

12 I will just read the letter there. It
13 says:

14 "Dear Chairpersons:

15 Re: Proposed Class Environmental
16 Assessment for Timber Management

17 Please be advised that the Islington
18 Band situated north of Kenora has a
19 direct and vital interest in the
20 management of timber resources on Crown
21 lands. While the Band is unable to
22 attend the Board's hearing in Kenora
23 because it is holding a community
24 feast on this date, please be advised
25 that the Band is preparing a video

1 presentation of its interest in timber
2 management practices and its traditional
3 use area. The video will be forwarded to
4 the Board in mid-June."

5 Signed Josephine Mandamin, Acting Chief.

6 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
7 Thunder. Could you express the Board's appreciation to
8 Chief Mandamin and we will look forward to receiving
9 that evidence when it arrives.

10 MR. THUNDER: Okay, I'll do that. Thank
11 you very much.

12 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much.

13 Yes. And a copy will be made available
14 to any of the parties who wish to see this.

15 Is Mr. Dave -- I think it's Mr. David
16 Burn or Mr. David Burt.

17 Good afternoon, Mr. Burt.

18 DAVID BURT, Sworn

19 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Burt.
20 Please take a seat.

21 Go ahead, Mr. Burt.

22 MR. BURT: Thank you ladies and
23 gentlemen, Madam Chair and Mr. Martel.

24 I am a logging contractor. I've been a
25 logging contractor for 22 years.

1 MR. MARTEL: You can't be heard at the
2 back.

3 MR. BURT: I'm a logging contractor.
4 I've been contracting for 22 years in the Kenora area.
5 My first real challenge came in the early 70s when I
6 was assigned a block of timber in the Nestor Falls area
7 which was a licence for 10 years and Nestor Falls is
8 right in the heart of the tourist oriented part of the
9 province here.

10 I worked well with the camp owners,
11 everything went fairly well. I would like to speak a
12 little bit about the time I was down there, when the
13 timber in the area down there was an old growth forest
14 type of cut-over, been cut two or three times already,
15 and I was sort of the peanut man assigned to clean it
16 up.

17 When I first started there it was hard to
18 come by to see a deer track or a moose track, it's
19 right adjacent to the Sabaskong Indian Reserve, the
20 highway and tourist camps all around it. By the time I
21 was finished in the 10 years there was moose and the
22 deer were flourishing quite well, there was a lot of
23 them.

24 While I was there I happened on to a blue
25 heron rookery by chance. The Ministry and I had walked

1 the area the previous year and there was no rookery
2 there and when he started to cut we ended up that we
3 were right at a rookery, so we left the rookery in
4 tact. We cut about a hundred foot face right up to
5 it -- like, you could see the rookery from where we
6 were cutting and the birds could see us.

7 We left then and we went back in the fall
8 and finished cutting the area around the rookery. We
9 left the buffer zone of about a hundred feet and I cut
10 in that area -- or passed by that area for the next
11 three years and the rookery was still there, it was
12 still active.

13 I'm just trying to bring out the point
14 that the birds are used to the human aspect in that
15 area.

16 From there, I ventured on to my new cut
17 area which is in the Cameron Lake area which is a
18 highly sensitive trout area. I built a road in
19 conjunction with the mining company for 24 kilometres
20 back in and that's where we started logging. When I
21 moved there about five or six years ago I purchased a
22 sawmill because there was a lot of saw logs in that
23 area.

24 I should say I have about 12 people
25 working in the bush year round for the last 20 years;

1 five people at the sawmill year round. We shut the
2 sawmill down for about a month in the winter and
3 Christmas time because it gets too cold, but other than
4 that it's a year round operation.

5 I always worked -- we've always had a
6 good working relationship with the Ministry, the
7 Ministry of Natural Resources. On building the road,
8 the 30 -- the 24 kilometres of road that we built, I
9 had to work quite closely with them. We had two major
10 stream crossings which we had to have environmentally
11 looked at with the tourist operators that are in there.

12 My road actually goes right by -- within
13 6-, 700 feet of a fly-in outpost camp. The road that
14 we built is blocked off to the public and that's how we
15 control it. We lease the land that the road is on, but
16 then the Ministry put up a sign so that the motoring
17 public couldn't use it because all our private funds
18 had built the road. No private funds went into the
19 road.

20 Just recently back in there we came up
21 against a great big snag. We had a rock ledge that ran
22 from lakeshore to lakeshore and the only place we could
23 get by was right up against the lakeshore up against
24 Trout Lake. So I had to work with the Ministry of the
25 Environment, fish and wildlife, Natural Resources and

1 that was the only way the road got put through. We
2 worked together and and I think the Ministry had all
3 the tools and regulations in place to control us, and I
4 think they are the ones that should be in control or
5 should be the watchdog.

6 I might also add, in this area where I'm
7 at now there is -- the game was very sparse in this
8 area and now it is -- you can't drive down the road
9 literally without seeing a moose or a deer in and out
10 every day. There are all kinds of animals now.

11 I think without the flexibility -- I
12 think if the Ministry of Natural Resources didn't have
13 the flexibility in a situation like I just had by
14 letting a person go close to the lake, that the timber
15 back there would have been lost because those areas are
16 a little different, a little more unique in its own
17 way.

18 This is probably about all I've got to
19 say, I guess. I had four pages of it all written up
20 and walked away and left them at home and that's why I
21 am sorting of winging it here.

22 MADAM CHAIR: Well, you have done a job
23 good job, Mr. Burt.

24 If you have thinking in writing that you
25 also wish us to see that's any different from what you

1 have said today --

2 MR. BURT: It's pretty much the same, but
3 it might have been a little more coordinated than what
4 I have just said.

5 MADAM CHAIR: That's fine. Thank you.

6 MR. MARTEL: In getting this bridge
7 across or getting across this road -- or this stream
8 recently, who were all involved?

9 Was a biologist -- was John McNicol
10 around and people like that? He is infamous, he
11 travels the world over.

12 MR. BURT: When I put the first bridge in
13 I actually had a helicopter over up above taking
14 pictures, watching to see that I didn't put any dirt in
15 the stream and there are actual pictures at the
16 Ministry's office to prove this.

17 No, they were quite strict. The cribs
18 that I put up, I had to wash all the rock before I put
19 the rock in the crib. So the guidelines were there and
20 this was about six or seven years ago. So we were
21 doing this long before the hearing started.

22 MR. MARTEL: You find that quite a
23 sensible way to do business?

24 MR. BURT: Well, it's costly but, you
25 know, it's part of the business.

1 MR. MARTEL: Thank you.

2 MADAM CHAIR: We have heard it expressed
3 by other people, Mr. Burt, that they are worried that
4 the Ministry of Natural Resources doesn't have enough
5 people working in the field to help industry to
6 supervise what's going on to prevent trespasses into
7 reserves and those sorts of things.

8 Has that been your experience, that when
9 you have asked to see someone they have shown up
10 quickly or do you think they are staffed too thinly or
11 do you think there are enough of them around who can do
12 the job they are supposed to?

13 MR. BURT: I think they could use a few
14 more people in the bush actually to please us, but they
15 have always responded quite well. I have always had a
16 good relationship with the Ministry. There has really
17 been no problem here.

18 MADAM CHAIR: So when you encountered
19 this rock snag problem in the road building, did you
20 have to stop everything and get on the phone and call
21 them to come out and see what was going on?

22 MR. BURT: We checked it quite
23 extensively; walked it two or three times first, they
24 checked it with the helicopter. It was well looked at
25 and there was just no feasible way over the rock.

1 It wouldn't have been bad if you could
2 have just went up the one side of the rock. Once you
3 got on top you had to blast your way down the other
4 side too. The rock may be a thousand feet across the
5 top, 800, a thousand feet across the top, so it wasn't
6 feasible.

7 MADAM CHAIR: Are there any questions for
8 Mr. Burt?

9 MR. CASSIDY: I have one.

10 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Cassidy?

11 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 Mr. Burt, you indicated that you at some
13 point in your experience encountered a heron rookery.
14 Was that about 16 years ago, Mr. Burt?

15 MR. BURT: Yes, it was. Actually I
16 encountered two. The first one was the first year I
17 was in there, but I was, oh, 5- or 600 feet above it on
18 top of a hill looking down at it and we never got any
19 close than that because the drop cut and the next --
20 that fall we went down and cut the timber fairly close
21 to it, but the timber -- it wasn't good timber close to
22 it, so that's why we never got too close to that one.
23 It never stemmed to bother the herons; they were there
24 the next year.

25 MR. CASSIDY: That was about 16 years

1 ago; is that correct?

2 MR. BURT: That's right.

3 MR. CASSIDY: That's my question, thank
4 you.

5 MADAM CHAIR: Ms. Blastorah?

6 MS. BLASTORAH: I will try and speak up
7 Mrs. Koven.

8 Mr. Burt, you mentioned a particular road
9 that -- I believe it was the Cameron?

10 MR. BURT: Cameron Lake Road.

11 MS. BLASTORAH: You mentioned that road
12 is signed and not open for public use; is that correct?

13 MR. BURT: That's correct.

14 MS. BLASTORAH: Am I correct that there
15 was input during the preparation of the timber
16 management plan from tourism operators who had boat
17 caches and outpost camps in the area and one of the
18 reasons for closing that road was to prevent access to
19 a number of lakes in the area via the Cameron Lake
20 Road?

21 MR. BURT: Yes, I believe that's correct.
22 At the time we had an open house meeting in Sioux
23 Narrows and I think that was brought up. We had the
24 road open for three years, we were leasing it. We had
25 a gate when -- well, we still have the gate there, but

1 we don't close it. We just leave the Ministry sign
2 there and people around there honour it and if they get
3 caught in there they get fined.

4 MADAM CHAIR: Any other questions for Mr.
5 Burt?

6 (no response)

7 Thank you very much.

8 MR. BURT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

9 MADAM CHAIR: Is Mr. Jim Ambs here?

10 JIM AMBS, Sworn

11 MR. AMBS: Well, I'm not too familiar
12 with public speaking so you have to allow me to read
13 off my notes a little bit here.

14 This summer in August it is going to 40
15 years since I immigrated from the black forest in
16 Germany to this country. I came for one purpose only,
17 to stay and work in the bush for four years, save all
18 my money and go back to the black forest, back to the
19 university to become an attorney, but it did not take
20 more than six months, I changed my mind, because I fell
21 head over heels in love with this beautiful country.

22 The vast forest, the lakes, the rivers
23 the wildlife, the fishing got so under my skin I wrote
24 my girl in Germany: If you ever want to see me again
25 you have to come to Canada and get married. Well, she

1 wrote back with: What boat?

2 Well, we got married, raised four
3 children right here in the woods. We all love this
4 country. Yes, we are a family of loggers. I hope my
5 two sons are not going to be stopped by bureaucrats and
6 our lobby groups from continuing our family's
7 tradition.

8 In the past, our family has been involved
9 in silviculture. My sons and myself have scarified
10 tens of thousands of acres and with great pride we
11 visit some of these areas to see a hundred per cent
12 success rate. Some of these areas in the Ignace area
13 are already about 20 feet high. We are very proud of
14 our success.

15 At present, we are cutting and delivering
16 approximately 30,000 cords of pulp wood to Boise
17 Cascade and we're employing approximately 25 people
18 directly. When I'm talking about logging 30,000 cords;
19 for instance, this year I will be logging about 25,000
20 cords of overmature stands which are from 30 to 50 per
21 cent rotten.

22 With a lot of great work and sometimes
23 endangering our lives we get this wood cut because we
24 have to cut all these chicots and willows down to
25 prepare for silviculture. So we do a lot to -- in the

1 past, the fire got through all these kinds of stands
2 and we go in there and salvage it. So we have the
3 fiber for the industry, what they need so bad.

4 But lately I'm very disturbed by some
5 articles and some opinions of lobby groups intended to
6 assassinate my character as a logger for being willfully
7 destructive or outright criminal. Not so.

8 Just last week a big party of bear
9 hunters had an accident and their truck caught on fire.
10 Who did you think put the fire out? Us loggers did.-
11 Who do you think has the equipment in place to attack a
12 fire immediately? Us loggers do. Who do you think has
13 the equipment in place to report to the MNR a fire in
14 less than ten minutes? Us loggers do.

15 Who do you think keeps a watchful eye on
16 all the inexperienced city people who come as tourists
17 into the woods and in lot of cases put the fire out
18 after they had left and picked up their garbage?

19 You see, we have an interest here and we
20 have to live here 12 months out of the year. Yes,
21 ladies and gentlemen, I regard the loggers of this
22 country not as villains, but as the guardians of the
23 north.

24 Now, in closing here is the most
25 important issue I want to mention. Our forests here in

1 the north are vast and there is room for all different
2 groups of tourist groups, tourist operators, tourists,
3 miners, hunters, fishermen, naturalists and even the
4 bureaucrats. All of you must stop fighting one another
5 or we are going to tear this lovely country to pieces.

6 We have to get together and use some
7 common sense to iron out our differences in a friendly
8 and peaceful atmosphere and most important, we all have
9 to join our hands and promise one another to work much
10 harder to leave our grandchildren a better place to
11 live in. Thank you.

12 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.

13 Ambs.

14 Are there any questions for Mr. Ambs?

15 (no response)

16 Thank you very much.

17 MR. AMBS: Thank you.

18 MADAM CHAIR: Is Mr. Anderson here? Mr.
19 Douglas Anderson?

20 (no response)

21 Mr. Wendel Dafcik?

22 WENDEL DAFCIK, Sworn

23 MR. DAFCIK: My name is Wendel Dafcik. I
24 represent Crow Rock Camps. I have a base camp on Lake
25 of the Woods about 17 miles south of Kenora and an

1 outpost camp north of Kenora.

2 I came somewhat unprepared to the meeting
3 and I will just be kind of brief on my concerns here.
4 My concern is timber access roads becoming too close to
5 remote lakes where tourism is important, such as remote
6 outpost camps and remote lakes where commercial boat
7 caches apply.

8 The highlight of visiting tourists on
9 these lakes is the remoteness, the quality of fishing
10 and the natural state of the land. I agree on the
11 selective harvest of timber sales where aged timber and
12 diseased timber is susceptible to fire. I am also an
13 advocate of replanting where cuts of timber are
14 removed.

15 I support the MNR's present policies on
16 timber management in relationship to tourism values.
17 If anything, I would like to see stronger emphasis on
18 keeping access roads from tourism-related lakes or
19 removed once timber operations are completed.

20 Thank you.

21 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Dafcik.

22 Are there any questions for Mr. Dafcik?

23 (no response)

24 Thank you very much.

25 MR. DAFCIK: You're welcome.

1 MADAM CHAIR: Is Mr. Fernand Therrien
2 here?

3 FERNAND THERRIEN, Sworn

4 MADAM CHAIR: Please go ahead, Mr.
5 Therrien.

6 MR. THERRIEN: My name is Therrien,
7 Fernand Therrien of Therrien Forest Products Limited.
8 I've been working in the forestry industry as a logger
9 for 48 years and 32 in northwestern Ontario.

10 For the last 12 years I have been working
11 as a subcontractor for Boise Cascade. During the last
12 six of these years I have been the President of
13 Therrien Forest Products Limited which has been the
14 logging company which has worked for Boise.

15 My business started with my wife, four
16 sons and myself. It had no employees, employs now 30
17 to 35 workers.

18 Our commitment has always been to doing a
19 good quality professional job in the safest way
20 possible I believe. As well my company and I are
21 always concerned with the environment and are concerned
22 about leaving the forest in good shape for future
23 generations.

24 For example, the areas we harvested 10 to
25 11 years ago are now regrowing 10 to 12-foot jack pine

1 and spruce. We are proud of the job we do and are
2 thankful for the opportunity the forest has given us.
3 We are willing to work together with Boise and the
4 government to ensure the future of the forest is
5 preserved.

6 The manner we have used for logging in
7 the past is working. Our industry ensures regeneration
8 of cut-over by replanting trees (MNR and Boise). Our
9 company contributes to the process by properly
10 preparing the cutting area, properly installing
11 culverts when roads are constructed and by performing
12 our work in a professional manner.

13 We are proud of the job we do and feel
14 the methods we currently employ are environmentally
15 sound and will ensure the continued health of the
16 forest.

17 To the Board I am sorry, but I don't talk
18 good English.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Merci beaucoup.

20 Does anyone want to ask a question of Mr.
21 Therrien?

22 (no response)

23 No, okay.

24 Merci beaucoup.

25 MR. THERRIEN: Ah oui. Thank you very

1 much.

2 MADAM CHAIR: We will give Mr. Therrien's
3 one-page submission Exhibit No. 1843.

4 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1843: One-page submission by Mr.
5 Fernand Therrien.

6 JOE SNIEZEK, Sworn

7 MR. SNIEZEK: Madam Chairman and Members
8 of the Board, ladies and gentlemen, I've been looking
9 forward to the Board's arrival in Kenora, I felt that I
10 might have something to attribute to assist the Board
11 in the preparation of their report, the contents of
12 which might help remove some of the stigma that is
13 currently directed at those making a living from the
14 utilization of our resources and perhaps provide the
15 set of guidelines for the future operation of these
16 industries and, perhaps more importantly, for the
17 future well-being of the people involved in them.

18 However, during the last couple of weeks
19 announcements emanating from Queen's Park relative to
20 the use of herbicides and the establishment of old
21 growth forest reserves, 140 years yet, have been made.
22 This probably indicates that the government of the day
23 is not about to wait for your report and is going to
24 proceed with its own pre-ordained agenda, an agenda
25 committed to the aims of the environmental crusaders

1 led by a premier who buried himself in the sand in an
2 attempt to halt construction of the infamous Red
3 Squirrel Road.

4 Considering the egos prevailing in
5 politicians that we northerners are a minority, we can
6 probably expect more of the same.

7 These announcements kind of took the wind
8 out of my sails, but I will proceed to reminisce a
9 little about my logging days as senior citizens are
10 prone to do.

11 I would like to tell you of an experiment
12 that I took part in some 40 plus years ago immediately
13 after World War II. It was about life in a family
14 logging camp where I took my new bride to three rooms
15 and a path where our first three children were born,
16 where we logged continuously for 10 years without
17 lay-offs.

18 If time was available I would like to
19 tell you more about our two-room school and its
20 graduates, our non-denominational Sunday school and the
21 visiting priest, the coming of the dental car, the 1st
22 of July picnics, Christmas concerts, 24-hour bonspiels
23 and how we lived in a 94-family forest village 68 miles
24 from the closest hospital.

25 I would like to tell you of the DPs, the

1 displaced persons who came to work under contract who
2 after working for a few months sent for their families
3 which they had left behind in war-torn Europe, of them
4 waiting patiently in the early morning dark at Red Lake
5 station for their loved ones who often arrived with
6 nothing but the clothes on their backs, about the
7 frenzied activities when we brought babies up from the
8 track, the camp woman running all over the place
9 looking for baby clothes and cutting up the camp gray
10 flannel sheets into diapers. In these days we were
11 called shackers or bush people.

12 Even so, in the early days the camp was
13 no picnic. Many of the newcomers were assigned
14 honeymoon shacks, 12 feet by 24 feet, with electricity
15 for lights only and with a combination wood shed and
16 privy out back. The water man delivered water and ice
17 and picked up garbage using a wagon or sleigh drawn by
18 the most beautiful team of Roans you ever did see.

19 One year 34 babies were added to the
20 population of the camp. Come spring most of the women
21 were bussed to the cut-overs to plant trees. They had
22 a great time, a real picnic, and looked forward to the
23 experience each spring, and the resulting plantations
24 are the best ever because they cared, the bush was
25 their home.

1 Most loggers consider the bush their
2 home, they love it and they - contrary to propaganda -
3 look after it. Why else would they continue to perform
4 some of the hardest manual labour left on earth, fight
5 the weather, the flies and recently the scorn of their
6 fellow citizens, mainly city dwellers, who each and
7 every day use the fruits of their labour; the
8 newspapers, Kleenex, Pampers and 2X4s.

9 The Lake of the Woods area covered by
10 hundreds of feet of ice I'm sure 10,000 years ago has
11 been logged for over a hundred years. There has been a
12 paper mill here in Kenora for going on 70 years.
13 People live here well, fish here, hunt here, swim here
14 and people come from afar to do the same, all with the
15 paper mill at their back door.

16 Sure in the early days a lot of the stuff
17 from the paper mill was dumped in the river, so was all
18 the raw sewage. The effluent from both the paper mill
19 and the sewage plant is certainly more acceptable
20 today. Still, there is no secondary treatment sewage
21 done and all the effluent must be chlorinated. There
22 has been continuous environmental improvement over the
23 past 70 years and more and better paper is being
24 produced every year.

25 In Kenora there were two polluters, the

1 one was industry and one was us, we the people. There
2 is no room for self-righteousness in this environmental
3 business, we're all responsible for contributing to
4 pollution from the day we're born till we die, and as
5 the population increases, the effects of this pollution
6 become more evident.

7 Technology was originally responsible for
8 the industrial development and the resulting pollution,
9 and technology must be called on to eventually
10 eliminate it. This is not to say that they should not
11 be prodded to do more faster, but no harder than we
12 must prod ourselves to solve all these problems.

13 You hear very little about how raw sewage
14 is being dumped directly into the St. Lawrence River,
15 Halifax harbor, Victoria harbor, compared to what you
16 hear daily about clearcuts, monoculture, dioxins.
17 Improvements in pollution control in both cases,
18 industrial and what might be called personal pollution,
19 are being as funds become available. In the first case
20 funds come from profits; in the second case from taxes,
21 neither source of funds are infinite.

22 Environmental crusaders have picked a big
23 target, the resource industries, and up to the last
24 couple of years an easy one, resource industry's
25 response has been very slow.

1 Now, these crusaders with the help of the
2 media, the well-meaning elitists hovering on his \$50
3 lunch in downtown Toronto wage a well-organized,
4 well-funded battle against what they call corporate
5 greed, destruction of the wilderness and the protection
6 in some cases of their northern playground.

7 The poor bloody northerner, the
8 prospector, the trapper, the miner, the logger,
9 unorganized, unfunded and with a rather slow response
10 from his employer who has already been portrayed in the
11 popular media as Cyril Sneer or some limousine-riding
12 beefy capitalist and no response at all from his union,
13 what the hell is he going to do; how can he raise his
14 family, how can he continue to live here in northern
15 Ontario?

16 Twice when I phoned government about this
17 problem some well educated bureaucrat replied that you
18 guys up there are barking up the wrong tree, tourism is
19 your salvation. No, don't get me wrong, we sure need
20 tourism. My reply to the bureaucrats was to ask them
21 if they had ever been in northern Ontario in February.

22 All and all I think we northerners are
23 getting the short end of the stick. We are heading
24 closer and closer to statism where an ecological
25 dictatorship will be making decisions on every proposed

1 action that we undertake.

2 Where were the crusaders when the Dome
3 was built in Toronto without environmental assessment
4 hearings. Our children, in fact all children in
5 Ontario schools have been bombarded by ecological
6 propaganda that often bypasses reasons, reason that
7 appeals to their unexperienced emotions and that often
8 manipulates the facts under the principle that the end
9 justifies the means.

10 We northerners are fast losing the battle
11 and only too long a time must pass until everyone
12 learns before we might even win the war.

13 Thank you.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
15 Snizek.

16 Are there any questions for Mr. Snizek?

17 (no response)

18 Thank you very much.

19 Is Mr. Anderson here? Oh, Mr. Anderson.
20 Would you like to give your submission now.

21 MR. ANDERSON: Sure.

22 MADAM CHAIR: We will take a 20-minute
23 break and we will come back and listen.

24 MR. CASSIDY: Madam Chair, if I can just
25 take advantage of this opportunity just briefly to

1 indicated that Boise Cascade (Canada) Limited, as you
2 may know, is offering a tour of the mill facilities
3 here in Kenora and the tour is being offered for
4 tomorrow night commencing at 7:00 p.m.

5 I understand the Board wishes to attend
6 and I would like to extend an invitation to any and all
7 present and all parties who wish to attend on the tour
8 as well. It will be brief, but we hope interesting,
9 and if anyone does wish to attend they should speak to
10 Ms. Wendy Chepanik who is in the body of the audience -
11 if she could stand up - and just sign up. The ground
12 transportation will be leaving tomorrow night from this
13 hotel lobby at 6:45 p.m.

14 Thank you.

15 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Cassidy. We
16 will be back in 20 minutes.

17 ---Recess taken at 4:10 p.m.

18 ---On resuming at 4:25 p.m.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Would you like to get
20 started, Mr. Anderson.

21 MR. ANDERSON: Yes. Would you like to
22 swear me in first?

23 MADAM CHAIR: Yes, please.

24 MR. ANDERSON: Up there?

25 MADAM CHAIR: Yes:

1 DOUG ANDERSON, Sworn

2 MARCIE ANDERSON, Called

3 MR. ANDERSON: And I will do the first
4 part of my presentation and Marcie will do the other
5 part. My part is based on the history of myself, you
6 know what I said in the other part because it comes
7 from good source.

8 First of all, my name is Doug Anderson
9 and I own and operate a company called Regional Logging
10 Industries (1979) Limited.

11 I have been in the logging business just
12 about all my life. I started when I was very young, I
13 started cutting with a Swede saw and an axe when I was
14 11 years old and progressed on into the years when we
15 got into power saws and skidders, and eventually
16 conventional logging, and now what we know today are
17 most up-to-date mechanical logging we have.

18 In 1956 to '65 I worked for the Ministry
19 of Natural Resources, at that time it was called Lands
20 & Forests, it changed later and my duties there were
21 forest fire suppression, scaling, forest management,
22 wildlife management and road building.

23 And in 1960 I got married and, of course,
24 I started to raise a family and then what I found after
25 that with my income with the Natural Resources wasn't

1 quite enough to sustain a family, so I started to
2 contract on the side on a small scale, so in 1961 I
3 started buying crown timber lots and patented lots and
4 put cutters on them and started cutting wood to sell to
5 the mill.

6 In 1962 Natural Resources sent me to the
7 forest ranger school in Dorcet where I stayed there for
8 a year and got my forestry degree in technology.

9 In 1965 I found out that my contracting
10 was getting too big and that it was interfering with my
11 duties with the Natural Resources, so I decided to go
12 with the contracting on a full-time basis, and after
13 that, in 1967, I formed the first Regional Logging
14 Industries and worked on Great Lakes Limited for 10
15 years, and then following that I worked for Buchanan
16 Forest Products and during those periods we logged and
17 sold timber to Buchanan and Great Lakes, Great West
18 Timber, Northern Wood Preserves, until 1979 when I came
19 to work for Boise Cascade.

20 In 1979 when we cut the first tree down
21 on March the 26th we were the first contractors to
22 start cutting on the Boise limits and we are logging
23 for Boise to this day.

24 In those periods of time we went through
25 many changes. We have come from a contracting basis

1 where a logger was merely a logger who went to the
2 forest and he made his living by cut and skid with a
3 skidder and a chain saw, and to this day now a logger
4 no longer fits into that category, he's become a small
5 businessman or entrepreneur and he has many other
6 duties to perform.

7 Loggers today they have to be able to
8 deal with environment, they have to deal with Workman's
9 Compensation and all the other ministry programs that
10 affect the logging industry, and not only that, he has
11 to be his own accountant, he has to be a full-time
12 mechanic and he puts in long hours seven days a week,
13 16, 20 hours a day, and this is what you have to do to
14 become a successful logger. So those who don't put in
15 those long hours just don't make it.

16 Beside being in the logging industry, to
17 show you that I'm not altogether in one direction here,
18 in 1981 I bought a ranch -- lots of land I brought in
19 buffalo to the area, so we started to raise buffalo and
20 other things that belong with buffalo ranching.

21 And to show that loggers have other
22 interests, they are not altogether with moose hunters,
23 the thing about loggers, most of them are
24 conservationists and we go around and we don't have
25 time to moose hunt or fish, but few people do, but they

1 go around and they more or less try and protect what
2 we've got and we have a heck of a job doing it
3 sometimes.

4 Some of the things that have stuck with
5 me over the years is when I was with the Natural
6 Resources doing the wildlife management I got involved
7 with poachers many times but the one that sticks with
8 my mind was the time I come across blood on a moose
9 trail and I tracked this moose down and found out he
10 had been shot and this was after the season closed. So
11 what I did is I went reversed the situation, back
12 tracked and found underneath the snow where there had
13 been one killed and buried and there was two fetus --
14 there was a moose was a cow moose and she had two young
15 moose, so the poacher not only killed two adult moose,
16 he killed two young moose.

17 So what I did is I took the two moose and
18 I took them into the high school in Dryden and they
19 used them in the science lab. Then I found the poacher
20 and he was charged.

21 These are just some of the things. And
22 another incident came to mind was in 1988 I was coming
23 up the Sioux Lookout Highway 105 and I come across a
24 car that was parked on the road and in front of it lay
25 a deer, so I got out and I looked both ways and there

1 was no excuse for this, it was wide open, there was no
2 reason to hit the deer.

3 So I proceeded to give the driver heck
4 and then the driver, of course, he felt ashamed about
5 everything and another guy came up -- stopped and came
6 up to him and said: Well, what are we going to do with
7 this deer. Well, while they were deciding who was
8 going to get the deer to take home and eat it Bambi
9 jumped up and ran in the bush. They thought it was
10 dead, but anyway, so I was kind of embarrassed about
11 that.

12 But things that bother me as a logger and
13 being a conservationist, things that bother me is
14 spring bear hunts, people driving down roads in the
15 springtime of the year, like right now they'll see a
16 partridge on the road and they'll just run over it not
17 thinking that in the ditch there might be 10 little
18 chicks that have to survive on their own, which they
19 won't.

20 And I don't care for people who --
21 hunters who cross over into areas that have been posted
22 for non-hunting. I don't care for hunting in populated
23 areas. You go through areas like Dryden and Oxdrift
24 and places where there's lots of deer you'll see
25 hunters right alongside the highway shooting at deer.

1 That should be an undertaking there and there should be
2 no hunting allowed in the first mile or so from the
3 highway like they do in Saskatchewan.

4 So a few of these things bother me. But
5 I mean this is one of the things we have to work out,
6 we have to work together with the hunting and fishing
7 and the tourist industry and all of us in the mining
8 industry and in the logging industry and paper
9 industry, we have to work together to make this
10 environment a safe place and better place for us to
11 live and still enjoy the good living and hunting and
12 fishing at the same time.

13 So with that in mind I'll turn the rest
14 of it over to my daughter here.

15 MS. ANDERSON: Good afternoon, I am
16 Marcie Anderson. I am Doug's daughter, I've worked for
17 Regional Logging for 10 years and I will present you
18 with our second part of our presentation. We have
19 titled our second part of the presentation The Logging
20 Industry and Environment, "Touching On" Yesterday -
21 Today - Tomorrow.

22 Yesterday and Today. How far have we
23 come since we burnt a path of timber from
24 coast-to-coast to allow the CPR and CNR to lay their
25 railroads?

1 Until the end of the second world war
2 most logging was carried out in the winter months. In
3 the fall, cutters would take their swede saws, axes,
4 tobacco and clothes and head for the bush and come out
5 in the spring.

6 Since all the physical work was performed
7 by men and horses, the best blocks of timber closest to
8 the waterways were cut first - today we call it high
9 grading, spruce was piled up in cord piles by hand-tie,
10 bolts were cut from the biggest and soundest pine -
11 they were then squared with a broad axe and piled away
12 awaiting the swamping crew. They would come along with
13 a team of horses, pile the wood on a sleigh and take it
14 to the river or lake and unload the sleigh. This
15 procedure was repeated day after day until spring
16 arrived or all the wood was out of the bush.

17 Prior to the 1950s we were not concerned
18 about what was transpiring in our forests. The forest
19 was so vast that it seemed endless. So what if we
20 dumped a little effluent into our streams and
21 waterways? The smell of chlorine and other toxic
22 chemicals in the air as you approached a pulp mill town
23 was the smell of prosperity. The sight of a tug boat
24 coming across the lake with a bag of three or four
25 thousand cords was exciting.

1 Since there were very few roads,
2 accessing our timber lands, forest management was very
3 difficult. Forest fires would frequently burn over one
4 million acres. In the northern regions fires were left
5 to burn themselves out.

6 The 1960s rolled around and highly
7 productive pulp mills came into being along with the
8 introduction of mechanical logging. Industry realized
9 they had to make new plans, the cart was already ahead
10 of the horse and we were losing, but we were on a roll.

11 Tree nurseries sprung up all over the
12 country. Forest resource inventories and photographs
13 were updated. Environmental studies were being
14 conducted on a low key basis. Log booms on waterways
15 were eliminated. Dumping ponds for waste products were
16 built. Effluent would no longer contaminate our
17 streams. Pulping processes were introduced that would
18 recover more pulp and paper from a cord of wood.
19 Oldest stands of timber were being harvested first and
20 better utilized.

21 Immediate action was taken in cleaning up
22 blown over stands and bug killed timber. Extra
23 precaution considered in harvesting near delicate areas
24 such as rivers and lakes, bird nesting grounds, moose
25 pastures and special care in crossing streams where

1 fish travel. Only seasonal logging in areas of shallow
2 soil.

3 Planting grass and flora where erosion
4 may occur. Garbage and oil changes carefully
5 scrutized. Highly trained fire crews with proper
6 communications to assist in fire suppression when
7 called upon. Networks of high standard roads into
8 remote areas to improve forest management and increase
9 site preparing and reforestation.

10 In 1970, the Dryden tree nursery produced
11 4,389,600 seedlings. Today it produces 10,000,000. In
12 addition, there are eight private nurseries which
13 produced 10,524,500 seedlings last year. This totals
14 over 20,000,000 seedlings for planting.

15 Tomorrow (the future). What's in store
16 for the future? In five years most of Ontario and
17 Canada will have caught up to the backlog of areas that
18 have not been planted. Alberta will have to act
19 quickly or they will experience what the rest of us
20 have gone through.

21 We can look forward to better utilization
22 of our forests through the transformation of
23 tree-length chipper to the logging industry, hot
24 logging and low inventories that were introduced in the
25 1980's will continue into the future. More high-tech

1 machinery will be introduced to the industry. Industry
2 is providing more public education and awareness
3 programs to keep the public informed. In another 30
4 years we will be harvesting plantations that were
5 started in the 1950's.

6 As the public become more knowledgeable
7 as to why we must manage every acre of forested land,
8 we will be harvesting highway reserves and lakeshore
9 reserves. A fallen down stand of overmature, diseased
10 wood is a worse eye sore than a properly harvested
11 stand. If you harvest an area and replant it, in a few
12 years you can watch it grow into a fresh, healthy new
13 forest, not to mention the oxygen growing trees
14 produce.

15 More care is being taken in laying out
16 cut blocks so as to safeguard against disease and sun
17 scalding. Most remote areas will be accessed by roads.
18 As we reach out further for timber fiber, we will have
19 to move the fire fighting boundaries further north.

20 Due to high technology there will be less
21 people employed in forest related industries. Pressure
22 from the Ministry of the Environment and the public
23 combined with diminishing profits will force the older,
24 obsolete mills to shut down permanently. As the large
25 softwood plantations of the northern states in the USA

1 reach maturity in the near future, we will have to look
2 toward the third world countries for a replacement
3 market.

4 Our conclusion. In the past, technology
5 adopted by industry has not been without blemishes.
6 However, in the past 15 years and hundreds of millions
7 of dollars later we are making great strides in a
8 positive direction. Newly constructed mills and
9 renovated old mills fall under the new guidelines of
10 the department of environment. With the cooperation of
11 the Ministry and the public we will survive the
12 recession and stay alive as Canada's No. 1 industry.

13 Not only do northern communities rely on
14 the paper and sawmill industry for the high standard of
15 living associated with the industry, but they look
16 towards industry for assistance in charitable
17 organizations and leadership in community functions.

18 With high energy cost, labour cost and a
19 high Canadian dollar we are finding it difficult to
20 compete on the world market with our product. Those of
21 you who are pushing us into a corner, do not push too
22 hard, be patient, help us to solve our problems. You
23 cannot change 50 years of tradition over night.

24 Industry is the first to realize that
25 changes are necessary, but they have to be dealt with

1 over a period of time and within the guidelines of
2 economic reality. We cannot destroy the financial
3 structure of industry to the point where the
4 shareholders lose confidence in our ability to manage
5 their money. This will happen if we push too hard
6 during these difficult times.

7 A lot of money is required to run a
8 country, especially one as vast as Canada. Where do
9 you think this money comes from? Industry, that's
10 where. The only problem is we produce enough to do
11 Canada on Mondays, and Tuesdays to Saturdays we have to
12 export. Seventy per cent of our production is
13 exported. To export, we have to be able to sell at a
14 price other countries can afford or they will go
15 elsewhere. We must find ways of reducing our costs.

16 Let's not drive our investors south and
17 turn Canada into the largest wildlife park in the
18 world, but work harder together to find solutions that
19 will enhance our economic growth.

20 Are there any questions for us?

21 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Ms. Anderson.

22 Are there any questions for Mr. Anderson
23 or Ms. Anderson?

24 (no response)

25 All right. Thank you. I had just one

1 question. Did you refer in the future to harvesting
2 reserve areas around waterbodies?

3 MS. ANDERSON: Yes, we did.

4 MADAM CHAIR: Do you see that as a supply
5 of wood that's needed by industry?

6 MR. ANDERSON: It is more for aesthetic
7 reasons. You leave these stands to reach maturity and
8 eventually they fall down and they rot and they bring
9 in diseases and they look like heck when you are on the
10 lake fishing. All you see is a mass of blowdown.

11 If this is controlled -- a control cut
12 you can extract the merchantable trees out of there
13 without doing any damage to the site or to the view
14 from the lake.

15 MADAM CHAIR: So you would support a
16 modified cutting of reserve--

17 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

18 MADAM CHAIR: --areas as opposed to
19 leaving them uncut or clearcut?

20 MR. ANDERSON: Right.

21 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you very
22 much.

23 We have the written presentation by the
24 Andersons and we will give that Exhibit No. 1844.

---EXHIBIT NO. 1844: Written presentation of Doug and Marcie Anderson.

MADAM CHAIR: We will call on the last speaker of this afternoon's session, Mr. David Treusch.

Hello, Mr. Treusch.

MR. TREUSCH: Good afternoon.

DAVID TREUSCH, Sworn

MR. TREUSCH: Madam Chair, my name is David Treusch and I appear before you as the Executive Director of the Lake of the Woods Economic Development Corporation.

Our organization serves the three towns of Kenora, Keewatin and Jaffray-Melick, together with their immediately surrounding area or some 22,000 inhabitants. Collectively we represent northwestern Ontario's second largest centre. Our agency is funded by and delivers programs on behalf of the private sector as well as all three levels of government and, therefore, our activities might be regarded as representing the broadest possible spectrum of interest.

We commend the Board for its laborious and difficult undertaking and are highly appreciative that this particular hearing is located in Kenora. The Economic Development Corporation is grateful for this

1 opportunity to share its view on such a highly
2 important and potentially sensitive issue.

3 While the hearings deal with timber
4 management on Crown lands which, incidentally,
5 represents 96 per cent of northern Ontario, one quickly
6 finds it impossible to separate the forest industry
7 from the whole environment. Our approach to this
8 matter then is wholistic.

9 Also, the subject of these hearings is
10 highly technical and we have neither the competence or
11 the capacity to render an opinion on such matters. Our
12 comments, therefore, are general in nature and meant to
13 assist the Board in establishing the importance of
14 sound timber management to northern communities and to
15 offer some general observations.

16 At the outset, we feel it worthwhile to
17 relate the socio-economic impacts of our forests to our
18 tri-municipal experience. With respect to forest
19 harvesting, the number of independent operators renders
20 the quantifying of employment positions difficult.
21 However, some 992 persons or over 12 per cent of our
22 work force are engaged in processing and manufacturing
23 our forestry harvest. This represents 94 and a half
24 per cent of our manufacturing sectors labour force.

25 Based upon important certain multipliers,

1 these manufacturing jobs lever a further 635 employment
2 positions, cumulatively 20 per cent of the total labour
3 force of which 446 would be engaged in the wholesale
4 and retail trade, entertainment and recreation, 69 in
5 transportation and another 120 evenly distributed
6 amongst finance, insurance and real estate, business
7 repairs and services, construction and public
8 administration.

9 The payroll of Boise Cascade alone is
10 \$41.4-million, representing just over 13 per cent of
11 our tri-municipal personal income. The firm also
12 provides attractive wage levels, supporting an
13 attractive quality of life for our residents. This is
14 evidenced by our communities personal incomes being 10
15 per cent above the national average. Add the
16 multiplier and the paper mill accounts for 18.4 per
17 cent of personal incomes. Similarly, it pays almost 42
18 per cent of the tri-municipalities commercial realty
19 and business tax.

20 One could continue to cite imperial
21 values and risk overlooking social values. Our major
22 manufacturer regularly provides funding assistance to
23 local groups, institutions and projects, such as the
24 hospital and library.

25 Similarly, the community benefits from

1 their human resource input of qualified personnel due
2 to the corporate policy of encouraging employees to
3 become involved in service to their community.

4 Another substantial manufacturer is the
5 largest locally owned employer and made great
6 contributions to the Log Hauling Safety Program.

7 Not to be overlooked is another aspect of
8 the dynamics of our local economy. In practice, a
9 communities' economy is a microcosm of the federal and
10 provincial circumstances, to the extent that there is
11 trade in the form of exports and imports.

12 Noteworthy is that over 90 per cent of
13 value added forest products are exports and a
14 tremendous value in the order of \$406-million annually
15 for the Kenora and Fort Frances mills combined is
16 attached to these exports. This facilitates our
17 community to import the products it needs, such as
18 energy to heat our homes, food to eat, clothes to wear
19 and transportation.

20 Our forests also sustain another major
21 industry - tourism. This economic engine is as old as
22 forestry dating from 1883. With approximately one
23 million visitors per year and being central Canada's
24 largest resource centre we host more tourists on a per
25 capita basis than the majority of Canada's cities and

1 towns.

2 This is a \$233.4-million industry
3 creating 3,245 person years employment annually. Over
4 48 per cent of our tourists declare the main purpose
5 for their visit as being general pleasure, sightseeing
6 and vacation home use.

7 Just as a gem is given value by a crafted
8 mounting, what would our lakes and waterways be without
9 the forest setting. Therefore, we view stewardship of
10 our forest resources primary as satisfying both a
11 predictable and affordable regenerating harvest need
12 and a living recreational experience.

13 A third dimension would be the spiritual
14 aspect to our native population. However, we would not
15 presume to speak on their behalf and assume that they
16 would have eloquently stated their position on other
17 occasions.

18 Directly related to forestry and tourism
19 are government services. In one way, shape or form the
20 three levels of government employ approximately 2,300
21 person in the tri-municipal area; some 28 1/2 per cent
22 of our labour force. Without the other two legs of our
23 three legged economic stool, this third would be
24 greatly diminished. Simple arithmetic then would
25 clearly indicate that without our forests the community

1 would have no reason for existence.

2 Other industries such as mining,
3 commercial fishing, boat building, flower milling and
4 brewing have essentially come and gone, but forestry
5 and tourism have been continuous throughout the decades
6 of our tri-municipal history. Still other industries
7 such as trapping and wild rice continue to play a role,
8 but they are minor by comparison.

9 While on the one hand our economy is
10 diversified; on the other, we could be regarded as a
11 single industry community to the extent that it is
12 totally reliant on one natural resource. Frankly, this
13 resource has the capacity to be sustained and renewed.

14 Now to a few observations. In developing
15 a plan for timber management we strongly urge the
16 enshrinement of the concept of the multiple use. Such
17 a system accomodates our multiple economic engines by
18 allowing access to different user groups. Mixed use
19 will provide the best economic return and best serves
20 the interest of the area.

21 On another matter, recent history has
22 demonstrated that northerners have been slower in
23 becoming politically empowered than their outside
24 counterparts. A result has been that actions and
25 decisions have been unilaterally taken under a

1 naturalist or environmentalist banner without due
2 consideration to the inhabitant stakeholders. Often,
3 even those who are well intentioned operate without
4 benefit of the true nature of our forests and
5 ecosystems frequently driven by emotion rather than
6 fact.

7 Furthermore, the real danger exists that
8 singular purposes are surreptitiously advanced under the
9 guise of environmental concern. We have two situations
10 at hand whereby development opportunities have been
11 afforded to extensively serve vested private interest.

12 Our residents have elected to live in the
13 north and most have a solid appreciation and
14 understanding of the forest resource because it is
15 integral to their lifestyle. May we respectfully
16 suggest the establishment of community participation in
17 resource management. We believe northerners possess a
18 good capacity to develop home-grown solutions.
19 Applying street smarts, if you will.

20 In practical terms, such community based
21 involvement could be related to logical geographic
22 definition such as drainage basins. As envisaged, this
23 community participation would not be single issue or
24 purpose, but rather it would reflect the multiple use
25 and multiple concern principle and achieve consensus.

1 Finally, its voice would be granted credence and weight
2 to correct the imbalance created by population
3 distribution.

4 Lastly, a comment on regulatory process
5 and procedure. No one can be more aware of the impact
6 of this issue than you and your Board, Madam Chair. We
7 recognize the need for due public process, that the
8 environment is a large politically sensitive topic but
9 which there is universal interest and concern.

10 At the same time, arbitrary,
11 bureaucratic, complex, inconsistent and conflicting
12 regulatory processes negatively impact northern
13 Ontario's international competitive position. All this
14 leads to convoluted procedure, extends time frames for
15 matters to be resolved and circumstances hostile to the
16 realities of desirable private investment.

17 New technologies emerge at a more rapid
18 pace than regulations, potentially causing such
19 regulations to be outdated the very day they are
20 enacted. To the greatest extent possible, a timber
21 management plan should be simple, flexible and time
22 sensitive. It should enhance technical, innovative and
23 economic opportunity while preserving the environmental
24 heritage.

25 In closing, may I once again thank this

1 Board for hearing our views and express our sincere
2 desire that deliberations will result in a sound and
3 effective timber management plan. Although the
4 circumstances might have been more favourable, we trust
5 your visit to our tri-municipal area has been a
6 pleasant one and look forward to the occasion when you
7 might return.

8 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
9 Treusch.

10 I have a question about your proposal for
11 community participation. Have you examined the
12 proposal put before us by various parties for
13 stakeholders groups in timber management planning?

14 MR. TREUSCH: No, we have not had that
15 opportunity.

16 MADAM CHAIR: Is that the sort of
17 situation you would support, where different groups in
18 the community are represented on a timber management
19 planning team in some way?

20 MR. TREUSCH: That sounds like it could
21 be or reflect that principle in essence without having
22 seen the draft. I don't think we see it as a
23 regulatory board. We're given to believe that there is
24 perhaps a model in British Columbia where they were
25 experimenting with this, but, again, we have not seen

1 the specifics.

2 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you.

3 Are there any questions for Mr. Treusch?

4 (no response)

5 Thank you very much.

6 That concludes our presentations for this
7 afternoon and we will be returning at seven o'clock
8 this evening to hear more submissions. You are
9 certainly welcome to join us then.

10 Thank you very much.

11 ---Recess at 5:00 p.m.

12 ---On resuming at 7:00 p.m.

13 MADAM CHAIR: Please be seated.

14 Good evening. Welcome to the timber
15 management hearing. For those of you who were not here
16 this afternoon I will introduce ourselves and this
17 project very quickly.

18 Elie Martel is a Vice-Chairman of the
19 Environmental Assessment Board and I am as well. My
20 name is Anne Koven. Mr. Martel and I have been hearing
21 evidence at the timber management hearing for three
22 years now, since May of 1988. This is the 311th day of
23 the hearing. The hearing is scheduled to finish in
24 December of 1992, which means we have more than a year
25 to go.

1 Certainly, the application by the
2 Minister of Natural Resources for approval of the
3 timber management planning process is a very serious
4 matter. It is one that's very close to everyone who
5 lives in Kenora and who lives throughout northern
6 Ontario.

7 We have very flexible rules for our
8 public hearings. We have seven or eight people who
9 have made an appointment this evening to speak to the
10 Board. If there is anyone else in the audience who
11 wishes to do so, please speak to Mr. Daniel Pascoe who
12 is standing up in the back and Mr. Pascoe will take
13 your name and bring it up to us and slot you in for a
14 time to speak.

15 Everything we are saying tonight is being
16 transcribed by your court reporters, Marilyn Callaghan
17 and Beverley Dillabough, and you can look at
18 transcripts of all the proceedings of everything we
19 have heard. Those transcripts are available in your
20 public library and also the offices of the Ministry of
21 Natural Resources in Kenora. I don't know if you want
22 to go through all 311 volumes, but certainly all the
23 evidence we have heard is public information.

24 If you have any questions about the work
25 of the Environmental Assessment Board or what we have

1 been doing at these hearings, go ahead and speak to Mr.
2 Pascoe or ask us and we would be happy to respond.

3 I think with that we will get started
4 with this evening's submission. I might introduce some
5 of the groups who have been travelling to all of the
6 hearings and some of their lawyers are here this
7 evening and I will introduce them.

8 After you have made a submission, Mr.
9 Martel and I might want to ask you questions and as
10 well anyone in the audience is free to ask any of the
11 speakers questions when they have completed their
12 submissions.

13 Mr. Cassidy, could you stand up please.
14 Paul Cassidy is counsel for the Ontario Forest
15 Industries Association. Nora Gillespie is counsel for
16 the Ministry of the Environment, and Catherine
17 Blastorah represents the Ministry of Natural Resources.

18 So if they ask you any questions you will
19 knows whose interests they represent.

20 This evening we are going to call first
21 on Mr. Bob Huitikka.

22 Good evening, Mr. Huitikka.

23 BOB HUITIKKA, Sworn

24 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Huitikka has given us a
25 written presentation consisting of six pages and as

1 well there is -- well, there are various letters and
2 other material appended to Mr. Huitikka's presentation
3 and we will give this Exhibit No. 1845.

4 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1845: Six-page written presentation
5 of Mr. Huitikka.

6 MR. HUITIKKA: Okay. Is the mike on?

7 MADAM CHAIR: I don't think so.

8 MR. HUITIKKA: I am Bob Huitikka. I am
9 with Wilderness Air Services out of Vermilion Bay and
10 tonight I will be basing my --

11 MADAM CHAIR: I don't think that
12 microphone is working, Mr. Huitikka.

13 MR. HUITIKKA: My name is Bob Huitikka.
14 I am with Wilderness Air out of Vermilion Bay. Tonight
15 in my presentation I would like to read parts of my
16 letter that was sent to the Environmental Assessment on
17 January 9th, 1990. The following is just quotations
18 from that letter.

19 I have been born here in northwestern
20 Ontario and I have been a bush pilot to since 1968.
21 Along with operating fur bearing traplines in the 60's
22 and operating a fly-in bait fish business in '71 to
23 '89, from '71 to '89 I have also been a logging
24 contractor for Boise Cascade during the winter months.

25 I have taken out anywhere from 2- to 7000

1 cords of wood each winter. I am now involved in a base
2 operation out of Vermilion bay and Dryden. My business
3 is 80 per cent tourism related. I have been operating
4 since '81. The company itself has been around since
5 the early 60's and have primarily been in a tourist
6 industry.

7 Wilderness Air operates fly-in outposts,
8 eight in total. There are approximately 30 to 40 lakes
9 where people are flown out on a daily basis for
10 camping.

11 The eight outpost lakes are on smaller
12 lakes. There is one cabin on each lake with a capacity
13 of six to eight people per cabin. I operate from May
14 1st to October 31, which is the season of business in
15 the tourist industry.

16 Along with my own registered guests going
17 to outpost cabins, I also have bait fishing lakes. I
18 also service five fly-in lodges. With the lodges I fly
19 in most of their food, gas, fuel and supplies. In 1990
20 I started operating an additional outpost which gives
21 me nine in total. Out of the nine outposts, I have
22 been operating four on a catch and release basis.

23 The catch and release fishing has been
24 practised by Wilderness Air since 1981. It has been on
25 the increase each year and we have been very pleased

1 with the success of that.

2 The outpost lakes that I do operate are
3 all fly-in lakes and the majority of them have no
4 access. Because of this we have been able to maintain
5 a good fishery on these lakes over the years.

6 With the continued demand in fly-in
7 fishing and the rate of access pressure on the lakes,
8 the quality of fishing is reducing. This is why we are
9 practising catch and release.

10 In the coming season 1991 with my nine
11 outpost cabins I have registered guests of 425 people.
12 I have 218 guests that are registered for catch and
13 release fishing, that is over 50 per cent of my
14 business are catch and release clients.

15 The access is becoming more of a problem
16 around my lakes. The older customers are starting to
17 feel uncomfortable about other people getting into the
18 lake and taking away the experience about being out
19 there alone. I see a decline in business in the coming
20 years. Catch and release fishing definitely is going
21 to help in the coming years to ensure good fishing for
22 my clients.

23 With the new FMA plans and the tourist
24 operators are dealing with the paper companies now it
25 is a fair responsive way of negotiations but there is a

1 lot of things that the Ministry could also be involved
2 with. I deal with Boise Cascade Kenora, Fort Frances
3 and also with Great Lakes in the Dryden District and
4 the McKenzie Forest Products in the Sioux Lookout
5 District. I have been meeting with paper companies
6 prior to their making their five-year plan, 10-year
7 plan and 20-year plan and putting input and trying to
8 make changes before their approvals are done. Some of
9 this planning takes months and months of talking with
10 them and negotiating and talking to the ministries
11 attending on certain issues which are outstanding.

12 The real problem is the tertiary road
13 that is off the main roads when they are going to
14 harvest timber. We realize that the primary roads have
15 been there for a number of years and will be there for
16 a number of years. We neglect knowing that those will
17 remain there for a long time.

18 A tertiary road is a low class road which
19 is built primarily for access to harvest timber. On a
20 number of these tertiary roads I would like to see more
21 scarification done, also on the skidways where timber
22 are brought to. When these tertiary roads and skidways
23 are scarified I would like to see topsoil brought back
24 on to these sites and replanted.

25 Most roads are built on our best soil for

1 growing trees. Flying in this area for a number of
2 years I see a number of sites from the air that are not
3 scarified and replanted and this is pertaining to
4 tertiary road and skidways, and I feel this is some of
5 our best soil that should be replanted on.

6 The FMA plan policy that is in place now
7 with me dealing with the paper companies will be an
8 ongoing discussion and meetings. Since they have an
9 annual plan to cut and is looked at each year it could
10 definitely affect my operations. Providing I know that
11 the cutting operations are taking place each year, I do
12 not mind this.

13 I realize that the timber companies have
14 to harvest the timber and that it is a very important
15 industry in this area. I feel that after the timber
16 companies have harvested timber off these areas and
17 they have got their timber resource, at least give me
18 me protection so I continue operating on these fine
19 lakes.

20 I think that the negotiations that we
21 have had prior to the cutting plan has been very
22 helpful to me and having my input in on the five-year
23 and the 10-year plans.

24 Discussing about regeneration, I have a
25 copy of letter and it is enclosed with the Chairman

1 from Bud Wildman. He was asked about a number of
2 hectares in this area that have been harvested and he
3 gave me some numbers. From 1986 to 1989 approximately
4 96,000 hectares were harvested in this area of the
5 province. During that same time 69,000 hectares were
6 planted.

7 In the past I have been involved with the
8 Ministry of Natural Resources in Dryden, Red Lake,
9 Kenora District on issues concerning and I have been
10 able to resolve with the paper companies a lot of these
11 issues. They have been fairly responsible in helping
12 out but they will not make a firm stand on making
13 decisions on a distance of roads from any specific
14 lake.

15 Now, back to scarification. The paper
16 companies have also pointed out the costs of
17 scarification and regeneration on cut-over areas. If
18 the tertiary roads are too far back from the primary
19 roads this is another cost that the companies would
20 have to incur in their cost of regenerating. This is
21 all done at the expense of a specific lake or an
22 outfitter.

23 I have been out in the field of
24 scarification with scarification supervisors and
25 personnel from Boise looking at concerned points in the

1 forest. Also, asking them to remove the roads at
2 certain points, the problem always comes up that it is
3 too far for them to get the trees to the site to plant.
4 I feel that the company or the Ministry of Natural
5 Resources should budget more money for tree planting.
6 These trees could be lifted into planting sites by
7 helicopter. From then on let nature takes its course
8 for the trees to grow. They would definitely be given
9 an ongoing future for the lakes that I operate.

10 There are also out there potential moose
11 habitat, definite spawning areas and the biologists sit
12 down with the paper companies to designate these areas.
13 Myself as an operator, someone who is out in the field
14 every day flying around these areas, being on the lakes
15 and is in touch with the spawning areas and moose
16 habitat, I have been consulted for information on moose
17 habitat areas and even spawning areas, and we have had
18 very good cooperation in doing this in the timber
19 management plans.

20 It always leads down to the extra cost
21 for the paper companies and Ministry of Natural
22 Resources. I feel that this has to be incorporated
23 into the FMA plans for us enable to manage the resource
24 that is out there. I feel that the regeneration has
25 been done by Natural Resources and paper companies in

1 the past years has not been up to standard and they
2 should be allotted more money and time and effort put
3 into the regeneration of our forest.

4 It is time that we took a close look at
5 our natural resource management. It is not the
6 responsibility of the Natural Resources or the paper
7 companies only, it is the responsibility of every
8 single group, every single individual in Ontario. We
9 have to be more conscientious on our future forest and
10 our future sport fishing. I think it has to begin with
11 the education of young people and the changing of
12 attitudes.

13 These are about the only notes that I
14 have. I must admit in the past years I have worked
15 with Boise and Great Lakes I have been able to work
16 with them very well on issues that pertain to their
17 concerns in the forest and my concerns. I guess the
18 access has always been a conflict in this area for
19 years. There is a lot of different sides to it.

20 I hope that we can resolve a lot of these
21 and give protection to the fly-in fishing business
22 which seems to be on the downside. We have lost a lot
23 of lakes over the years due to access. I hope that we
24 can work this out. One thing I am very positive about
25 is the catch and release fishing that I have been doing

1 over the years and it has been working out very well
2 for me.

3 And I would like to sign off with a note
4 of fishing that, since our fishing season is upon us
5 again, and it states that: Next time you're out
6 fishing with your son or daughter, grandson or
7 granddaughter and you catch a fish, let them release it
8 and explain to them why you released that fish. They
9 will feel good about it and see that fish swim away
10 healthy and enjoy the thrill of catching that fish
11 again and so will you.

12 Thank you.

13 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much. Could
14 you explain to the Board, Mr. Huitikka what is the
15 appeal of catch and release fishing for your clients?

16 MR. HUITIKKA: The way I fish it, you
17 mean?

18 MADAM CHAIR: Yes. Why would some
19 clients want to go to your lakes where there's catch
20 and release fishing as opposed to not?

21 MR. HUITIKKA: It's the basis of keep
22 taking a resource out of a lake, and we've seen that on
23 a number of lakes in this area, that the quality of
24 fishing is no longer there.

25 By people going into a lake, catch and

1 release with my regulations of no live bait, barbus
2 single hook, eating fish while there, no fish to be
3 taken out except a trophy for mounting, the fish
4 populations have increased on these lakes, the quality
5 of fishing since '81 has been on the increase a lot,
6 our size of fish have been larger each year and they
7 just seem to want to go to a lake that has got top
8 quality fishing in it that has been proven, because I
9 start out with about a five or 10 per cent ratio of
10 people wanting to fish, this year I have over 50 per
11 cent of my clients are fishing this way, and it is
12 because of quality fishing that I'm able to offer them.

13 And this is the protection I'm looking
14 for that I can keep on these lakes in years to come and
15 still allowing the timber companies to harvest wood
16 around these lakes.

17 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

18 Are there any questions from the audience
19 for Mr. Huitikka?

20 Mr. Cassidy?

21 MR. CASSIDY: Would you encourage other
22 tour operators, fly-in tour operators to develop fish
23 and release programs to achieve the objectives you say
24 they're achieving for you?

25 MR. HUITIKKA: I would encourage it a lot

1 because it's been a slow process and I have submitted a
2 letter which states about my doings in the catch and
3 release, it gives you good fishing in the years to
4 come, we're not taking large numbers of fish out, and
5 it relates that you can have people coming back without
6 having to have disappointed clients because you're
7 offering some real good fishing for them and I
8 encourage it for anyone that can possibly do it and I
9 encourage it for residents, start practising that on a
10 lot of lakes.

11 MR. CASSIDY: Thank you.

12 MR. MARTEL: I have a question I want to
13 ask you. You're attempting to negotiate 2,000-foot
14 buffer around lakes?

15 MR. HUITIKKA: Yes I have, yes.

16 MR. MARTEL: You haven't met with much
17 success?

18 MR. HUITIKKA: No, I haven't. I have
19 been able to work with the companies on a one-to-one
20 basis. We take concerned area and we look at it for
21 the road wise, if the road can be built back further or
22 it has to go closer, we're working that strictly on a
23 one-to-one site basis.

24 MR. MARTEL: That's for tertiary roads
25 primarily?

1 MR. HUITIKKA: Tertiary and main roads.
2 Mostly the primary and main roads that will be in tact
3 there for years. That is the ones I would like to see
4 2,000 feet back.

5 MR. MARTEL: Okay, that's what I was
6 trying to get straightened around.

7 MR. HUITIKKA: Yes.

8 MADAM CHAIR: Ms. Blastorah?

9 MS. BLASTORAH: I just have a couple of
10 questions and I will try and speak up since my
11 microphone isn't working.

12 Mr. Huitikka can you give the Board any
13 idea of how many lakes in the Kenora area are currently
14 in use for tourism operations, but I'm not looking for
15 a number.

16 Would you say most or all of the lakes in
17 the northwest or the Kenora area that are suitable for
18 tourism purposes are in use for that purpose?

19 MR. HUITIKKA: Are you talking about
20 fly-in or road access and fly-in?

21 MS. BLASTORAH: Fly-in.

22 MR. HUITIKKA: I think, being in this
23 area for 20 some years flying and fish these areas from
24 the Manitoba border to Ignace, from Fort Frances up to
25 Hudson Bay, I think any lake that is a good potential

1 fishing lake has got a commercial operator on it. If
2 there isn't, I'd be there.

3 MS. BLASTORAH: Would you agree with me
4 that that increases the importance for operators on
5 those lakes to become involved in the process early and
6 it increases the importance of attempting to negotiate
7 multiple-use solutions?

8 MR. HUITIKKA: I think it is very
9 important, and what I see in the past years a lot of
10 our resort owners and outfitters are from the U.S. and
11 they feel that they can't be part of the process
12 because they're from another country, even though they
13 have an investment here in Canada, operating a lodge,
14 and I have dealt and come to as many meetings with four
15 different paper mills in five different districts, I
16 have been involved, and I think that every operation
17 should be involved because their interests are at stake
18 and we're not trying to -- in the outfitting business
19 to put a stop to the logging, but it's trying to come
20 to some solution that we can continue operating on
21 these lakes in years to come.

22 MS. BLASTORAH: And I take it from your
23 comments that where you have become involved in the
24 process and dealt with the company and the Ministry
25 that you had some success in achieving protection for

1 the operations that you have on the many lakes that you
2 mentioned?

3 MR. HUITIKKA: Yes I have and I have come
4 to terms with one thing that I know, that when there is
5 access into an area and the prime example when they
6 crossed the English River going north towards
7 Longlegged, it opened up a new corner of wilderness
8 that was never accessed and it was there for timber
9 harvesting.

10 It has put a lot of my lakes in the edge
11 of jeopardy for access. With the Non-Resident Crown
12 Land Act in place, not allowing non-residents to camp
13 on those lakes, I have told my clients that you will
14 see some resident traffic coming in here fishing, that
15 is something that we have to accept and live with.

16 I am trying to avoid having any direct
17 access to the lake. It's there for the avid sportsman
18 that wants to work to get into that lake, and this is
19 what I'm trying to achieve with it. I realize that I
20 will have limited access coming in there.

21 MS. BLASTORAH: And one last question in
22 relation to your catch and release fishing operations.

23 I understand that on the basis of
24 operating on a catch and release basis the Ministry has
25 been able to assign you some additional lakes for boat

1 caches and outpost situations where you operate on a
2 catch and release basis that would not otherwise
3 necessarily support a tourism fishery operation; is
4 that correct?

5 MR. HUITIKKA: That's right, yes.

6 I have taken four of my nine outposts and
7 have gone fishing that way on this on my own and with
8 the support of the government.

9 I have nine single-day lakes where I take
10 people in from other lodges so they can enjoy one day
11 of this kind of fishing, and I have been practising
12 with that basically on one -- my own with very great
13 support from the Ministry of all the districts that I
14 have worked with.

15 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you. Those are all
16 my questions.

17 MADAM CHAIR: All right.

18 Oh. Yes, sir?

19 FROM THE AUDIENCE: I would just like to
20 know if the catch and release program is a thing of the
21 future. Are you planning on extending that to all nine
22 of your fly-in camps?

23 MR. HUITIKKA: I think the Ministry,
24 talking to them, having discussions with them on my
25 dealings and proposals I've had to them, I think that

1 they're working towards a -- to that and it's up to
2 operators or individuals that want to come in and voice
3 their opinion on the fisheries management.

4 It's out there for anyone that would want
5 to practice it on any lake that is fly-in or drive-in.
6 I would like to see a lot more of it practised in the
7 whole region here.

8 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
9 Huitikka.

10 Is Mr. Gaston Porier here?

11 GASTON PORIER, Sworn

12 MR. PORIER: Good evening. My name is
13 Gaston Porier. I'm from Thunder Bay, Ontario. I
14 operate a logging camp, CP Forest Products camp 515
15 which is 40 miles east of Atikokan. We've been in
16 operation - the name of the firm is Huronian Timber -
17 for about two and a half years. This camp, however,
18 has been in operation since 1973, the fall of '73.

19 The employees, most of them, come from
20 Atikokan which is a community that's been hard hit in
21 the last decade or so by plant shutdown. In fact it
22 tends to rely more on the pulp and paper and the
23 sawmill industry now to support it.

24 Our firm came into being about two and a
25 half years ago when Canadian Pacific Forest Products

1 (Thunder Bay) asked us to take over the camp, contract
2 it out, so to speak, but it's an odd situation. The
3 employees remain on their payroll, they are CP
4 employees and we direct them, which might sound a
5 little bit funny, but it's been a good arrangement over
6 the years. It's something that CP and formally Great
7 Lakes carried out over the last 30 years with the
8 contractors directing their employees.

9 We have approximately 40 employees from
10 Atikokan. Before they used to be involved in cut and
11 skid operations and when we took over we introduced the
12 machinery feller bunchers, grapple skidders, delimiters,
13 one-man slashers.

14 And you might think that this reduced the
15 workforce, in fact it didn't because CP in turn upped
16 the quota at the camp from about 45,000 cords to 60,000
17 cords, so it overall had a pretty good effect on the
18 men and extended the work life of the man out in the
19 field there.

20 Formally a fellow who cut and skid was
21 working quite hard, took the risk of injuries and just
22 wear and tear. Now he's operating a machine and has
23 some confidence in his future.

24 I should say that these fellows are
25 members of Local 2693, the International Woodworkers of

1 Amercia. In other words, we've got three parties
2 involved, we've got Canadian Pacific, we've got
3 Huronian Timber, and we've got the woodworkers union.

4 I think the men are well represented by
5 their union. We've got a good working relationship
6 between all three parties. By the way, the woodworkers
7 union just radified a contract this spring with
8 Canadian Pacific for another three years and talking it
9 over with the members they think they got a pretty good
10 deal going there and they're quite confident.

11 There are 16 other employees and they are
12 involved with the wood haul, hauling the wood to the
13 Thunder Bay mill. They are also members of the IWA
14 but the haul originates out of Thunder Bay for
15 transportation purposes, and these fellows again are
16 quite satisfied with the relationship.

17 I should say that there are several other
18 contracting camps working for CP out of Thunder Bay
19 under the very same arrangement.

20 We cut mostly eight-foot roundwood,
21 deliver that to the mill. A portion of that goes into
22 their stud mill, it's selected at the mill site and
23 made into studs. Another portion though, in the actual
24 operation of woodlands the decision is made on site
25 that some of these -- some this wood is good for

1 sawlogs and we'll cut that in 16-foot sawlogs and
2 deliver that to sawmills in Thunder Bay. That
3 basically being the two sawmills of Buchanan Forest
4 Products Industry runs and they in turn provide the
5 same amount of wood in the form of chips to the
6 Canadian Pacific mill. That's an arrangement they've
7 got between them and the union and the Ministry, from
8 what I understand, and that has gone quite well too.

9 We own and run the entire operation with
10 direction from CP Forest Products foresters. They deal
11 with my partner who happens to be also a registered
12 professional forester, and another foreman on the site
13 who also is a registered professional forester. They
14 have the skill, a lot more than I do. I was more
15 involved with the hauling before this of the product to
16 the mill. So we mix well and I depend on their
17 expertise to bring us along.

18 I should tell you that the forester at
19 CP, the forester in the woodlands and my partner all
20 deal quite effectively with the MNR people.

21 We cut, we skid the wood to roadside, we
22 delimb, we slash it with one-man slashers, we also
23 build roads and we then haul it to the mill.

24 Last year we began site preparation, this
25 was with some talk with the CP forester in charge of

1 silviculture who suggested that we should try the
2 three-hole Bracke pulling that with skidder.

3 We've got basically rocky sites, a lot of
4 them are shallow soils. He had the expertise and
5 consulted with our people, we all agreed and went along
6 with it, and we did the 515 site last year, we did
7 about 2,100 acres and it turned out quite well.

8 I've got to admit, I didn't have much
9 experience with it, but I planted trees back in, oh,
10 1971 for the MNR and there was no scarification process
11 then and I can see now from the scalps, what's
12 produced, how much easier to plant trees and how much
13 better the chance you've got for that tree to take.
14 The Bracke in our site I think is the right machine.
15 That is a little small description of where I am from
16 and what we are doing out at 515.

17 The reason I came here though was to talk
18 about an encounter I had with Mr. Crandall Benson on
19 the woodlands site at 515. Mr. Benson was preparing
20 data for Forests for Tomorrow and I encountered him on
21 the branch road not far off the highway to 515.

22 He went by once in a pick-up truck with
23 another fellow, came by another time in the opposite
24 direction and I followed him, I guess I was wondering
25 what he was doing up here. We have a lot of encounters

1 with the public out there and a lot of cases they're
2 look for directions, looking for a lake, sometimes they
3 broke down, sometimes they're stuck and we can help
4 them out. We've got telephones in our pick-up trucks,
5 we sometimes aid them in that manner.

6 When I followed Mr. Benson he saw me in
7 his rearview mirror and pulled into a gravel pit and I
8 pulled alongside of him and we began to talk.

9 I introduced myself as being the
10 contractor at 515 and I asked him if he didn't mind
11 telling me what he was doing here and if he was looking
12 for something, if could I help him?

13 He told me who he was, told he was
14 contracted for Forests for Tomorrow and explained that
15 he was collecting data which was all fine, but he asked
16 me why I was asking him. And I explained that --
17 before I had asked him, if he had been a union
18 representative he was required by the collective
19 bargaining agreement to report to the office first, and
20 he chuckled and said: No, he wasn't a union rep
21 although he did have some affiliation with the union.

22 It might be noted that in his statement
23 of evidence he's saying that I accused him of being a
24 union rep. There was no accusation at all, it was just
25 questioning and I think I was well within my -- I don't

1 know if it's right or just my being out there.

2 As I said, he informed me that he was
3 gathering information and he asked me if I knew about
4 Forests for Tomorrow and the Environmental Assessment
5 process hearing and I told him, yes, but not to a great
6 extent. I had read in the local papers, and this had
7 just begun I guess the last six months had been ongoing
8 and I had read articles in the paper, but other than
9 that I didn't know who he was and not a heck of a lot
10 about Forests for Tomorrow.

11 He also said in his statement that I
12 accused him of some picture taking. This was two years
13 ago, and I don't recollect anything at all like this of
14 accusing him. I don't remember seeing any camera.
15 That part there doesn't make sense to me at all.

16 He then asked me if I had thought that I
17 had a right to ask him to leave this area and I said
18 no. I don't know, you tell me what your rights are
19 here. It seemed to annoy him. He thought -- he was
20 quite concerned that I should know more about the Crown
21 lands and his right to be on them.

22 I should say that I don't know -- I still
23 don't know all the rights out there, but I think I
24 should show some concern for people's safety out there.
25 There's haul trucks out there travelling at pretty good

1 speed. We have equipment out there that we're
2 concerned about theft every day, and there's the chance
3 of people unwittingly or whatever starting fires out
4 there. So I think I've got some right to know what
5 people are doing out there.

6 If this was of concern to him, then that
7 is unfortunate. I think overall though the sense of
8 the encounter was that he was trying to goad me on and
9 maybe if the encounter had lasted longer it might have
10 worked more. I don't know. He may look at this with
11 some great victory or something. I don't, I look at it
12 as an unfortunate circumstance.

13 That's about all I've got to say.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Porier.

15 Are there any questions?

16 (no response)

17 Thank you very much.

18 MR. PORIER: Okay, thank you.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Is Mr. Grantboise here?

20 FRANK GRANTBOISE, Sworn

21 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Grantboise has given
22 the Board a two-page written submission and this will
23 become Exhibit 1846.

24 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1846: Two-page submission of Frank
25 Grantboise.

1 MR. GRANTBOISE: I am over here this
2 evening representing the Sportsman Conservation Club.
3 We are affiliated with the Ontario Federation of
4 Anglers & Hunters. We support their presentation,
5 although the part on there about 60 per cent recycled
6 paper may not be feasible in the north. It may better
7 be applied to the Toronto area.

8 I work for the Town of Jaffrey Malek and
9 have been there for eight years. The previous 20 years
10 I was involved in the logging industry in one way or
11 another. I was brought up in a bush camp. The club I
12 represent was formed in the 1950's and was active until
13 the late 60's. I was foreman for a while, and four
14 years ago a group of concerned people got together and
15 got it going again. We have members from all walks of
16 life that are interested in the outdoors and managing
17 our resources.

18 Four years ago we approached the MNR to
19 see what we could do to help. We were and are members
20 of the Clearwater Fish Advisory Committee, the Aulneau
21 Advisory Committee, the Minaki work group which
22 includes the Winnipeg -- basically on the Winnipeg
23 River.

24 The MNR helped us in identifying streams
25 and spawning bed that could be enhanced and also

1 places where we could create new ones.

2 Another project for MNR was seeding old
3 logging roads to prevent erosion. We were loaned a
4 seeder from the Ministry and have since purchased two
5 more of our own. We appeared at the timber management
6 hearing for the Sioux Narrows area and voiced our
7 concerns that multi-use of resources could not be
8 accomplished by road closures.

9 The club doesn't want to see any loss or
10 financial hardship to any tourist camp. We believe
11 that if fishing in a certain lake causes hardship that
12 that lake should be posted and the road used for berry
13 picking and sightseeing, fishing maybe or even fall
14 hunting because usually the camps are closed when the
15 hunting season is open.

16 We were very well received by the MNR
17 staff and that started dialogue we hope will continue
18 shortly where all users sit and identify the problems
19 and solutions can be worked out.

20 From our seeding experience for the MNR,
21 we were approached by Boise Cascade a few years ago to
22 see if we would be interested in contracting out some
23 seeding projects for them. We went to look at
24 different water crossings, pieces of roads and since
25 then I would hesitate to say how many miles of road and

1 water crossing has been done and we told a lot more are
2 planned for the summer.

3 Boise has become one of our biggest fund
4 raising projects, and in turn the money that the club
5 makes is used in conservation projects and is greatly
6 appreciated.

7 We would like to see more public
8 consultation before decisions are made and I think
9 these decisions should be made by MNR staff that are
10 here locally and have the knowledge of the province
11 rather than being made in Toronto where situations are
12 different.

13 I would like to see all user groups work
14 together for multi-use of our resources for the
15 pleasure of everyone.

16 Myself and a few club members were out
17 camping this weekend and in a cut-over area of about 15
18 years old had the opportunity between us of having seen
19 five cow moose and six new born calves. We had the
20 pleasure yesterday of talking to two residents of
21 Grassy Narrows who were out hunting and they said all
22 they saw were cows and calves and they wouldn't shoot
23 them, they kept looking for a young bull. We
24 appreciate that and it just shows if we all do our part
25 we can make better use of all our resources.

1 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
2 Grantboise.

3 MR. MARTEL: The whole idea of - and I
4 think it is the first time we have heard it - to close
5 a lake and not the access, how hard would that be to
6 police, to ensure that --

7 MR. GRANTBOISE: I mean, this is done in
8 Manitoba quite extensively. On the licences they will
9 have this lake is closed, and I can see it being worked
10 out. I don't see any problems here.

11 MR. MARTEL: You are advocating that
12 policy wide for the province rather than ad hoc-ery?

13 MR. GRANTBOISE: That's right. Rather
14 than closing a whole 30 miles of road, allow another
15 fish lake in that area being fished to take the
16 pressure of other lakes. I think it would be a good
17 policy. We don't want to hurt the operator that's
18 there, but open it up for berry picking, it could be
19 anything else. The road could be closed to the lake.

20 MADAM CHAIR: Any other questions?

21 Ms. Blastorah?

22 MS. BLASTORAH: Just a couple of
23 questions.

24 You have made some comments here in your
25 submission, Mr. Grandboise. One, you indicate that you

1 had some recent discussions with the Ministry that you
2 expect to be ongoing. Am I correct that that's a
3 discussion you had recently with Ministry staff about
4 reviewing some use management strategies for existing
5 roads?

6 MR. GRANTBOISE: That's right.

7 MS. BLASTORAH: I believe that is planned
8 to be done sort of on a trial basis for roads already
9 in place?

10 MR. GRANTBOISE: That's right.

11 MS. BLASTORAH: And other stakeholders
12 are to be involved in those discussions?

13 MR. GRANTBOISE: We hope to get everybody
14 at the table together.

15 MS. BLASTORAH: You also made some
16 mention of various advisory committees that members of
17 your organization have been involved in.

18 Have you found that generally to be a
19 positive experience for your club members?

20 MR. GRANTBOISE: I think so. It is very
21 positive and it does --everybody feels we have an input
22 into what's happening.

23 MS. BLASTORAH: Do you feel that the
24 input that you have is meaningful and is useful?

25 MR. GRANTBOISE: We do a lot of the time.

1 We may not agree with the decision a hundred per cent,
2 but we had our two bits in there.

3 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you very much.

4 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
5 Grantboise.

6 Is Mr. Bill Skene here?

7 BILL SKENE, Sworn

8 MR. MARTEL: Can you tell me where
9 Oxdrift is?

10 MR. SKENE: Just outside of Dryden. I
11 will get to that.

12 Good evening. My name is Bill Skene. I
13 have lived in northwestern Ontario all my life in a
14 small village called Oxdrift just outside of Dryden.

15 I make my living in the forest, mainly
16 reforestation. Before I get into that, I would like to
17 give you a brief history of my family. In 1896 my
18 great, great, great uncle, Alan Skene, first arrived in
19 Dryden. He was sent to northwestern Ontario by the
20 Ontario Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable John
21 Dryden, to scout out possible farm land for new
22 settlers. When he arrived, he saw great possibilities
23 for farming and other industries. One such was the
24 forest industry.

25 A short time after he arrived he started

1 the first sawmill which, incidentally, was the first
2 business in Dryden. The lumber and timber from this
3 mill built the first homes, businesses and bridges for
4 the early pioneers.

5 Since that time, my family has been
6 involved in logging and lumber operations to this very
7 day. My father presently operates a sawmill in
8 Oxdrift. He has a cutting licence with the Crown that
9 supplies the mill with logs. He also buys wood from
10 private cutters that have small licences with the Crown
11 and also cuts on privately ownedland.

12 I grew up around the sawmill and started
13 working for my father when I was finished school or
14 shortly after. I operated the sawmill for a period of
15 10 years. In 1984 we had a layoff at the sawmill and a
16 friend of mine introduced me to tree planting. I
17 started out as a tree planter, quickly moving into a
18 supervisory position. I worked with a crew of four
19 planters and also planted myself. We completed a
20 contract of 60,000 trees.

21 In 1986, I formed my own tree planting
22 firm, the Moose Creek Company. We held a contract to
23 plant 200,000 trees with Boise Cascade on their cutting
24 limits northwest of Kenora. We employ 15 local workers
25 for four weeks. Since that time we have increased our

1 planting contracts with Boise Cascade and are currently
2 planting a total of 1,200,000 trees, employing 40
3 planters, foreman and tree packers.

4 In 1987, we also started contracting with
5 the Ministry of Natural Resources at the local tree
6 nursery in Dryden. We held a contract to harvest
7 bareroot stock. This work consisted of lifting,
8 culling, bundling and bagging of one 1,500,000 trees
9 and employed over 80 local people for a period of three
10 weeks. Since that time we have held seasonal contracts
11 that have included seeding greenhouses, both spring and
12 fall bareroot harvest, summer transplants and have
13 completed over 400 hectares of stand improvement work
14 with the MNR.

15 We have employed 150 to 300 seasonal
16 workers each year for the past three years. These are
17 a variety of people including housewives, high school,
18 college and university students and many others.

19 Members of the Board, my company is
20 small, but as you can see we do provide a lot of
21 employment for the people in northwestern Ontario.

22 I am the sixth generation, I guess you
23 can say that, to make a living from the forest in this
24 area and I hope some day my children can do the same.
25 The north does not have a lot of diverse industries

1 and, therefore, the forest industry is very important
2 to the economy and well-being of northwestern Ontario.
3 This is why it's very important for the forest to be
4 managed properly.

5 When I talk to people about logging and
6 silviculture, I would like to compare it to growing and
7 caring for a garden. First of all, people could not
8 live without gardens. When you plant a garden you must
9 plant it properly, you must decide what species you
10 want to seed and what species you want to transplant.
11 Some do not do well if they are transplanted. After
12 planting and seeding you just don't sit back and watch
13 it grow. If you do you will have a garden that's
14 overrun with weeds that compete with your crop to the
15 point that it won't amount to much. So you weed and
16 then it grows. You realize that certain species must
17 be thinned. If you don't, they will struggle to
18 survive and they won't amount to much. So then you
19 thin.

20 Then in late summer as your garden
21 matures you start to harvest your crop. You are
22 careful not to pick the vegetables too early and,
23 likewise, you don't wait until they are over-ripe.
24 After everything is done you prepare the ground for
25 next year.

1 Growing trees is similar to having a
2 garden. The only difference is the size -- or there
3 are many differences, but the size of the plants are a
4 lot bigger and the size of the garden is colossal.

5 One thing that is important to remember
6 is, the same as a garden, we must manage the forest
7 properly. We have to harvest mature stands, plant and
8 seed and tend at the right times. We must continue to
9 support the Ministry of Natural Resources in their
10 efforts to manage this valuable asset. We must also
11 insist on more funding from both provincial and federal
12 sources.

13 The Ministry of Natural Resources have
14 made great advances in silviculture management over the
15 last two decades, but there is so much more that can be
16 done. Remember, we started late and we have a lot of
17 work to catch up on.

18 I believe there should be more trees
19 planted. There should be more money available, more
20 money made available for stand improvement work. There
21 are thousands of hectares of aerial seeded sands that
22 must be thinned. The MNR claim these practices of
23 thinning can speed up a stand's rotation by as much as
24 20 years.

25 As you can appreciate, any industry that

1 has been around as long as the forest industry has its
2 periods of ups and downs. Right now we're going
3 through a difficult time and do not need anymore
4 unnecessary restrictions.

5 If you as a Board make any
6 recommendations that have negative effects on the
7 logging and/or reforestation industry, you must be
8 aware that you will have -- you will affect either
9 directly or indirectly the lives of all the people in
10 this community in northwestern Ontario and all of
11 Ontario. This natural resource we call the forest
12 generates a lot of revenue for both the private and
13 public sector.

14 I am a father of two children. My son
15 David is nine and is already talking about the
16 environment and how we must protect it. In April, they
17 celebrated Earth Day. I guess we all did. His teacher
18 asked the class what they were doing to help the
19 environment. David put up his hand and told her that
20 that his father planted a million trees last year. She
21 kind of looked at him as if he was telling a fairly
22 tall tale. He then informed her that most of these
23 trees are planted by my employees.

24 This makes me extremely proud of what I
25 am doing for a living. The other day my son brought

1 home a white spruce seedling from school. We planted
2 it on the front lawn, and let's not let this be the
3 last tree that he gets to plant.

4 Thank you.

5 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Skene.

6 Mr. Skene, the persons you employ for
7 your tree planting, are those primarily people who live
8 in the Kenora area?

9 MR. SKENE: I employ -- I am from Dryden,
10 just outside Dryden.

11 MADAM CHAIR: Pardon me, from the Dryden
12 area.

13 MR. SKENE: I employ as many as I can. A
14 lot of the people from Dryden would just as soon not
15 live out of town and my camps are in the bush. I do
16 employ a lot of university students for that. They are
17 quite willing to go into the bush.

18 I have employed natives from northern
19 reserves. They will come down, but I would say
20 probably about 15 per cent of -- well, actually in the
21 last two years it has been about 15 per cent of local
22 people and before that I did have -- when I first
23 started it was a hundred per cent local people.

24 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you.

25 Are there any questions for Mr. Skene?

1 (no response)

2 Thank you very much.

3 MR. SKENE: Thank you.

4 MADAM CHAIR: Is Mr. Clarke Handerson
5 here?

6 CLARKE HANDERSON, Sworn

7 MR. HANDERSON: Before I read my letter,
8 I would just like to thank you for giving us an
9 opportunity here in the Kenora District to express our
10 opinions, and let you know that in the last 25 years I
11 think there has been great strides in the way the
12 forests are managed around here. The people are doing
13 a better job every year. People in the Ministry I
14 mean.

15 There is far less waste, site preparation
16 is better when they are replanting, trees are planted
17 better and in the years I have been involved in the
18 logging I just notice a great improvement.

19 My name is a Clarke Handerson. I was
20 raised here in the north at a tourist resort that my
21 family has operated for over 50 years.

22 I make most of my living as a logging
23 contractor and trapper. Logging is harvesting a crop,
24 a renewal resource. A place where cut this past March
25 was cut in the early 1960's and before that 1936.

1 Perhaps it was also logged over when the railroad was
2 completed in 1915 for railroad ties. I'm not sure
3 about that.

4 These earlier cut-overs are not clearcuts
5 as we are required to make these days because all the
6 trees that were work worth taking at that time were
7 taking and I'm convinced that many of the stands of
8 timber could be managed for a 25- or 30-year harvest
9 now, particularly stands that have a lot of younger
10 trees in them.

11 When you cut selectively you merely alter
12 the average age of the stand and I feel that many of
13 the stands near the populated areas should be managed
14 this way, but then there are stands that should be
15 clearcut. These are the stands that contain only
16 mature trees and require clearcutting and machines and
17 site preparation in order to seed or replant the area
18 into a marketable species.

19 I know that the replanting is successful
20 because since 1966 I have been involved in planting
21 billions of seedlings and some of them are -- well,
22 they look almost big enough to cut by now.

23 Logging in this area is changing bit by
24 bit and year by year and now it's not just to go in and
25 get a piece of paper anymore before you being cutting.

1 The Ministry has an ever increasing amount of paper to
2 complete. Of course, I don't really mind because it
3 ensures a growing demand for pulp wood, but we get
4 working.

5 We have got height guideline for stumps
6 and cull guidelines for rotten logs and penalties for
7 unused merchantable material. We can't work near some
8 type of bird tests or where moose have aquatic feeding
9 areas sometimes and we are required to put in culverts
10 and clean gravel and even doing the depression between
11 two meadows sometimes when we want to build a road to
12 the wood that is beyond there.

13 The local MNR holds informational
14 meetings every year just to keep us up to date on the
15 rules that we have to abide by. So no one should get
16 the impression that we operate foot loose and fancy
17 free. There is just a handful of papers you have got
18 to apply for and get before you can go out and cut.

19 I brought some of them here. You have
20 got cut inspection papers. That's the last part.
21 First you need a work permit and once you get that --
22 well, this is when you have an area to cut, you get a
23 work permit, then you have a authorization to haul
24 uncut, unscaled timber, codes of practice for timber
25 management in riparian areas, modification of

1 guidelines and site risk classification for fire,
2 communication guidelines for fire, water causing
3 checklist reports, then you might have modifications to
4 your work permit. If you need fill for your road you
5 will have to have an aggregate or a gravel pit permit,
6 then you need a -- might need a land use permit.

7 So the paper work just builds up every
8 year. So it not that loggers are out there wiping out
9 the land with nobody watching them.

10 Now, because of the increasingly
11 cumbersome beaucracy and changing markets conditions it
12 can't always be taken advantage of. The local
13 technicians and foresters know that and they might be
14 familiar with the area you want to cut and it concerns
15 that specific area, but they are really unable to act
16 on their own to allow a logger to move on short notice
17 because this area might not have come into their
18 five-year plan.

19 So their hands are tied otherwise let you
20 go there. As I say, if you have a market for poplar or
21 white spruce or more pine logs.

22 If they're to allow you to go there, they
23 have to go through a lengthy amendment process and by
24 the time that gets finished with you might not have the
25 market any more. There's just so many people involved

1 in cut approvals that any slight change becomes a
2 ponderous chore.

3 And the people now handling the timber
4 resources are committed to following tough
5 environmental guidelines, and it seems to me that as a
6 logging contractor my every move is monitored whereas
7 cottagers, tourists, fuel wood cutters, hunters and
8 other assorted forest travellers build their fires and
9 leave their garbage and rut up muddy streams with
10 complete immunity.

11 About half my time is taken care of with
12 government and red tape or making sure my workers are
13 within their cut boundaries and doing their job up to
14 the land use specs.

15 So I think in short that the logging
16 really doesn't need any further environmental
17 guidelines and, in my opinion, more attention should be
18 directed towards the expanding network of cottage
19 subdivisions and their roads, driveways and Hydro line
20 arteries because these communities are not just a
21 short-lived phase in the life cycle of a living,
22 changing forest as is logging; the communities, their
23 life lines are -- well, they're permanent and the
24 impact on logging -- excuse me, the impact made by
25 logging is fleeting and temporary.

1 In many places where I cut 20 or 25 years
2 ago, they've -- it's almost returned to its original
3 state already and even I have trouble identifying my
4 older roads and landings.

5 And travelling these old cut-over areas
6 in the winter reveals that wildlife is plentiful. And
7 as a trapper, I long ago found that a mixture of
8 cut-over and young forest and a bit of old forest is
9 necessary for healthy animal populations. Like, we
10 need the cut-over for the low browse and the younger
11 growth that provides many animals with food.

12 Changes in the way we harvest timber is
13 being implemented every year and many of these changes
14 are hard to cope with financially as the bottom line
15 just seems to get thinner and thinner, but I don't
16 know, we seem to manage. A drastic change though in
17 the way we're allowed to operate would be a crippling
18 or fatal blow to an industry that really isn't all that
19 strong right now.

20 Many families in this area depend on
21 logging entirely. Whenever one of the major employers
22 have a temporary or seasonal lay-off I'm flooded with
23 phone calls from men who want work and not only do they
24 lack the benefits of most industries, but as
25 independent contractors most of them can't collect UIC

1 either.

2 In closing, the loggers don't want every
3 living thing as -- want to cut everything, like some
4 environmentalists would like to make out, most of the
5 loggers I know and who work around here do it because
6 they enjoy the forest, they love working out there and
7 I think a lot of them could make more money doing
8 something else but they just enjoy forestry.

9 But, on the other hand, I know a few
10 environmentalists would like to see every tree die a
11 natural death of a wind storm or fire and turn into
12 humus rather than be utilized by a logger. Like, their
13 reasoning is that wind and fire are part of mother
14 nature, but I think loggers are mother nature too. So
15 I think we should have -- continue to have a chance to
16 operate.

17 Thank you very much.

18 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
19 Handerson.

20 MR. MARTEL: Mr. Handerson, how long - I
21 don't think the question has been raised, certainly I
22 can't recall it - how long after an area has been
23 cut-over, in your opinion - because you're both in
24 harvesting and in trapping - do the lakes which some
25 people complain about having been cut relatively close,

1 the harvest has been relatively close and affected
2 business, how long really before one can say: Well, it
3 really has the wildlife in it that was there
4 previously, the trees are well on their way, we have
5 free to grow maybe, so that tourism once again is
6 revitalized in those lakes that might have been
7 affected by a harvest?

8 Because some people have made that
9 suggestion due to access. How long until we get back
10 to as close to nature if we were to shove off the
11 access to some of those lakes once they've been cut,
12 before they could be fully utilized for a wilderness
13 experience and so on?

14 MR. HANDERSON: In 20 years' time you
15 could barely see where, unless it's been an awfully
16 good road, you can barely make a road out any more,
17 unless it's been used year after year by hunters and
18 fishermen and other people.

19 But if you just leave it, like stop the
20 access on that road so that people can't travel it with
21 four wheel drives, in 20 years' time it will be grown
22 in so thickly that you --

23 MR. MARTEL: And if we went back and
24 deliberately worked at regenerating those particular
25 areas, would that -- I'm trying to think of what we can

1 do as a Board because we've heard how certain
2 industries are affected.

3 At what time does that impact diminish to
4 where we're back to as - when one considers we've
5 harvested - as close to what was there originally? You
6 wouldn't get the trees 60 feet of course high and so
7 on, but everything else, except maybe height back to
8 normal?

9 MR. HANDERSON: I think 20 or --

10 MR. MARTEL: 20 years.

11 MR. HANDERSON: 25 years.

12 MR. MARTEL: 25 years.

13 MR. HANDERSON: If you block the roads
14 off so people can't travel them into the lake, the
15 brush takes over first and then the trees, whether they
16 have been replanted or come back naturally, they come
17 back pretty thick.

18 MR. MARTEL: All right, thank you.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Are there any other
20 questions for Mr. Handerson?

21 (no response)

22 Yes, sir?

23 MR. COSGROVE: I would like to add a bit
24 to Mr. Handerson sitting there, if I may. I come from
25 Iroquois Falls, Ontario and we used to live right

1 beside the Abitibi River across from the mill.

2 Last summer we had a homecoming, so my
3 brother I decided we would go down to see our house
4 where we used to live. We almost couldn't walk down
5 for forest where the road used to be. Where the house
6 used to be in, we had have moved it away and there
7 wasn't two pines left standing there, we wouldn't have
8 been able to identify where it was. It's younger now.

9 MADAM CHAIR: And that was how many
10 years?

11 MR. COSGROVE: Well, that was 1985 we
12 moved the house away from there. This area wasn't a
13 forest area, it was an open field where the river flows
14 over in a flood every year too, and even still this
15 forest has regenerated immensely.

16 I was also down in Virginia, I went on a
17 tour of a big parkland out there where trees towered 60
18 or 70 feet high and they probably present a big sign -
19 this park is a nature path - and they have signs
20 stating that so many years ago only moccasin feet
21 travelled this path, 50 years ago it was a corn field,
22 and the tree was so high, so big that you would think
23 that they had been there for the last hundred years.

24 So provided there is soil trees grow.
25 Also if you drive down the Ottawa Valley on Highway 17,

1 it used to be farms all the way from Pembroke to Ottawa
2 almost and down 17 from Ottawa to Montreal. It's
3 becoming a jungle because people have quit farming
4 along there and trees just take over and grow and the
5 animals too.

6 And the animals, you know, they don't
7 like to live in thick brush all the time, they like to
8 find a clearing to walk on and get a little sunshine
9 and look around a bit.

10 So wherever you cut forest, unless you
11 strip it off like they did out in B.C. on the mountain
12 side where naturally the rain is going to wash the soil
13 away, trees are going to grow and animals, they don't
14 die, they just move away a little bit to five or six
15 miles away and when the forest comes back they come
16 back. So life goes on in the woods.

17 Thank you.

18 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

19 Thanks, Mr. Handerson.

20 MS. BLASTORAH: Mrs. Koven, I was
21 wondering if you should get the last gentleman's for
22 the record. He'll go unidentified otherwise.

23 MADAM CHAIR: Excuse me, sir, would you
24 like to be identified for the record. Would you like
25 to tell us your name?

1 MR. COSGROVE: Bruce Cosgrove.

2 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Cosgrove.

3 We will call on Mr. Allan Thomson.

4 ALLAN THOMSON, Sworn

5 MR. THOMSON: To begin with you'll
6 find -- among the contractors that are working in the
7 bush you'll find a very diverse range of backgrounds
8 among these people. For example, myself I have a B.Sc.
9 in biology, I did a M.Sc. in molecular genetics and
10 then later on, about 1987, I took my teaching
11 certificate while I was working full time.

12 I had somebody obviously sign my name
13 during classes and I studied at night but I managed to
14 get through. Okay.

15 Now, first of all, I'm just going to be
16 honest here. Okay, first of all, this is something
17 that has been brought up tonight, we have to look at
18 the forestry as being a global market. Now, you have
19 to remember you have to compete against companies that
20 are working in the Amazon basin, companies that are
21 working in Malaysia, companies that are working -- for
22 example, a lot of people don't realize that Malaysia
23 has less than five per cent to seven per cent of its
24 natural rain forest left now. The Japanese are
25 stockpiling most of the lumber from that area to be

1 sold as veneer at later dates.

2 I mean, I realize that there has to be
3 some sort of concern for environment, it has to be
4 there, I believe that most of them are in effect. You
5 have the buffers for the lakes. One of our northern
6 camps, I have two camps planting trees for Boise
7 Cascade right now. Actually I should mention that I
8 own a tree planting company and I have been working in
9 Ontario and Manitoba and I am planting in excess of
10 over 2-million trees this year.

11 One thing I must mention about the
12 northern camp. Okay. For example, we took a vote in
13 our camp yesterday. We were being hassled by three
14 bears, all right, a mother and two cubs. Okay. I
15 asked -- by the way, I will mention one other thing.
16 If my northern camp we have by far a vastly female -- I
17 would say there is 11 girls working in the camp and one
18 man. Okay. Now, that's very contrasting to most
19 logging operations, but so be it, there it is. They
20 took a vote yesterday and they wanted the bears
21 trapped. They don't want them shot, they want them
22 trapped if it can be possibly done. We put it to the
23 vote and we will be asking the MNR if they could help
24 us out.

25 As so many of the loggers have mentioned

1 here, most of them do love wildlife. They are not out
2 to destroy the forest so that wildlife can't exist.
3 The very first cast I made into the lake, the first
4 night, a fish was caught. We have three people there
5 with fishing rods, who all have their licences by the
6 way, MNR checked them, no problem -- and I have some
7 native people working for me. Brian back here is
8 working for me. He is one of my tree delivers. Brian
9 back here.

10 They fish and I mean it's a game up
11 there. It's like if you don't get anything on your
12 cast -- they bet who doesn't catch a fish. That's the
13 bet, who doesn't catch a fish. This is an area that
14 had been logged extensively and to look at it today I
15 would guess that many years ago that it was logged
16 right down to the lake, which was probably a mistake,
17 but it has recovered and I mean it's really abundant
18 with fish. I mean, every night there is fish jumping
19 everywhere.

20 One other factor we must consider. You
21 always hear about erosion. The gentleman back here, I
22 believe, Mr. Anderson brought this up. He was talking
23 about erosion and another gentleman earlier. I forget
24 your name. They brought up the fact that you can't
25 compare Ontario and B.C. It's true, you can't compare

1 the two. I've worked all across Ontario, I have
2 planted myself. If I were to plant another month and a
3 half - in fact I may do it some time - I would have an
4 even one million trees in the ground that I would have
5 personally planted. That's how I paid my way through
6 university, was planting trees.

7 I've planted everywhere in this province.
8 There are very few companies, districts I haven't
9 planted in. Because Ontario is flat, relatively
10 rolling areas, except where you have outcrops of
11 Canadian Shield, you will find in general that the
12 erosion factor is negligible in Ontario as compared to
13 B.C. I must admit that there are problems with the
14 B.C. forest industry.

15 If you take a drive up the Boise Cascade
16 road and you go out to the cut-overs and you go out to
17 the areas planted you will find that erosion is --
18 there's very little of it.

19 I would like to also mention -- I
20 mentioned that some of the people here are worried
21 about the tourism business. All right. On the week
22 end my crew worked through the long weekend. I would
23 estimate that a car and a trailer came up that road on
24 average one every minute. I mean, I couldn't believe
25 it. There was dust trail after dust trail after dust

1 trial of either trucks hauling trailers or cars hauling
2 trailers up there.

3 At one point I drove down the road and
4 there was one point about 15 miles south of my camp
5 where there were no less than 15 trailers parked within
6 about -- no more than less than half a mile from one to
7 the other. So I would definitely say there is no
8 problem with the tourism for the people going up there
9 to fish.

10 MR. MARTEL: I think the problem, if I
11 might just -- I don't think the certain is --

12 MR. THOMSON: I am just going to mention
13 what I have seen here in the last few weeks.

14 Now, Boise, as most of you are
15 concerned -- most of you may or may not be aware is
16 into subcontracting or contracting. I am going to give
17 you an outline. I do a contract for southern Ontario
18 district, okay. I start April the 15th. That district
19 looks after 650,000 trees, two foresters employed, four
20 forest technicians. So that's six people employed to
21 look after the planting of 650,000 trees.

22 Now, if you were to compare that with the
23 number of people who are employed to look after similar
24 projects in private industry you would see a huge
25 discrepancy and I think you would find that the private

1 industry is cooperative and in actual fact has more
2 hands on, they are more adaptable to different
3 situations.

4 For example, I may be working in a field
5 in southern Ontario and I may say: Look, what do we do
6 here, we are on a low lying wet region? If we plant
7 these trees here they are going to die. They say:
8 Well, that's the way it is, that's the way the contract
9 was wrote up, you plant the white pine there, that's
10 it. They are going to die, but that's the way it is
11 going to be. Boise would never made that same mistake
12 or any other private company for the fact that it would
13 cost them money.

14 Another thing, too, about contracting is
15 that it proves inefficiency. If a mill were to run
16 operations themselves and people were allowed to use as
17 much gas, et cetera, as they wanted to there would be a
18 lot more pollution. I find that through
19 subcontracting -- like, I am nickeling and diming
20 myself to death to stay in business, okay. I make sure
21 I pay bonus incentives for reduced costs in fuel, I pay
22 bonus incentives reduced -- on equipment and any other
23 thing. Propane, I pay the cooks bonuses to try and
24 keep the cost down in propane and gasoline to run the
25 camps. So I find that the whole contracting process

1 does, in effect, in reality reduce pollution.

2 Now, we drink the water from all the
3 lakes that we have camped on in this area. Okay. We
4 chlorinate the water for three hours before we drink
5 it, there has never been a lake that we haven't worked
6 on that we don't drink the water from. Okay.

7 Now, I just have one or two more
8 important points to make. This is a point I must -- it
9 comes back to a fact raised earlier. If an industry is
10 too efficient, this is something we have to remember
11 here in Canada, all right -- well, let's look at
12 Sweden, for example. Let's look at what's happened in
13 Sweden. Some stands are now on their last rotation. A
14 lot of people aren't aware of this, but Sweden has
15 practised what we would call - and set example to the
16 rest of the world - extreme efficient tree planting.

17 However, what this extreme tree farming
18 has done is, for example, they will cut the trees, they
19 will cultivate -- it almost look likes a farmer's field
20 sometimes what's cultivated. However, what this does
21 is it kills much of the bacteria and another essential
22 organisms that are required to breakdown organic
23 materials for the future forests to survive.

24 In a way I think some of -- that's one
25 thing I must say, that the northern technique of

1 foresteing, you know, some is left, some scattered
2 around, you don't get every little thing -- I would
3 have to say when you look at the stands and see that
4 turn-over and you see the stands 20 years later, I
5 think this is what is going to allow the Canadian
6 forests to survive into the future and maybe it's
7 simply because we are so vast that we are able to do
8 this type off -- or that we can assume that somehow
9 down road the replannting of forests to harvest.

10 For example, I heard somebody -- I was at
11 a meeting the other day abd I heard a Boise
12 representative saying: We are planning on having
13 forests for the next 90 to 100 years. So, obviously,
14 there are management procedures in effect to keep them
15 in business for the long-term.

16 Now, I hear tourism over here and I hear
17 forestry over here. Now, I'm a peacemaker at heart. I
18 mean, I'm a little volatile sometimes, but I'm a
19 peacemaker at heart. I see no reason -- this is one
20 thing and maybe I'm wrong on this. I heard some of the
21 loggers saying, you know, close the lake or whatever,
22 but I see no problem with leaving little trails down to
23 lakes and if tourists want to use them let them, but
24 the problem is - and this is a big problem -
25 responsibility.

1 You know, there are always people who
2 come up and they leave their garbage behind, throwing
3 cans in the water, et cetera. One year I cut my foot
4 while I was tree planting in a lake. I was going for a
5 swim and I cut my foot on a broken pop bottle. This
6 is -- I think you have to give people the benefit of
7 the doubt and say: Okay, that's part of tourism. You
8 have to take the good with the bad, but I don't see why
9 there has to be any kind of loggerhead between the two.
10 There should be, to my estimation, total cooperation.

11 Now, one other thing I will mention. My
12 crew comes into town last night. They plant from six
13 in the morning 'til noon and they drive to town. I
14 would say that they go out and have a pretty good time.
15 They probably spent about \$3,800 last night and today
16 and went back to the bush broke, okay.

17 The bottom line is, I'm sure that's not
18 bad for Kenora business when they do this every
19 weekend. However, though, when you look at the total
20 picture, what they actually spend because they do live
21 in the bush is far less than the average person who
22 probably lives in Kenora. So they come in, they have
23 their little binge, they buy whatever it is that they
24 need and they go back to the bush. Many of them are
25 university students. I have a very large cross-section

1 of people. I would guess that there are probably -- my
2 crew, for example, I have about -- Brian what do I
3 have, about eight native people working for me?

4 BRIAN NEPANIK: Yes.

5 MR. THOMSON: Okay. Basically all it
6 comes down is to trust. I mean, the one thing about
7 our crew is everybody seems to get along. We have lost
8 very few people this year and generally the speaking
9 the four or five we have lost are people we wanted to
10 get lost anyways.

11 I think I've mentioned most of my points.
12 The only thing I must mention is that most of the
13 people working for me are really highly responsible
14 people. Most of them are using tree planting as a
15 means to end. Let's face it, there aren't too many
16 career tree planters around, all right. I mean, most
17 of these people are using it as a means to an end.
18 They are either saving money for a business endeavor or
19 they are saving money to pay for their education which
20 is, I would say, the vast majority of the cases.

21 One thing I will mention that I don't
22 think Darlene is aware of this. Darlene, we planted
23 90,000 trees on Monday and Tuesday and Tuesday was a
24 half day. So I think we're clipping along.

25 One thing -- I have a pet peeve with

1 government, and I know this is a little off topic.

2 However, this comes back to business. I think one
3 thing that the government -- there is a theory, a
4 theory that they teach in political science. They all
5 teach this in university and the theory is this, spend
6 during times of recession. All right. Now, this is a
7 theory that they teach.

8 I know this is a little off topic, but my
9 question to be put back -- I agree with some of these
10 loggers. I mean, we have the bureacracy involved. I
11 mean, next time I am going to have to hire a full-time
12 accountant just to handle my GST, what I put in, what I
13 can get back, what I have to pay out and there is an
14 incredible amount of bureacracy created in Canada and
15 the bureacracy is created out of a lack of trust.

16 There's the government here and there's
17 business here. I don't know, maybe I'm out in the blue
18 zone here, but there seems to be an an incredible
19 amount of bureacracy created to ensure that there is a
20 certain means to an end met. For example, I ask, what
21 business would survive if they took into use the line
22 of logic spend during times of recession? What loggers
23 would still be in business or what tree planters would
24 still be in business if he used this line of logic.

25 So I will leave that -- I just had to

1 mention that my pet peeve is this whole idea that the
2 Canadian government has of spend during times of
3 recession.

4 Another thing, too, is I think this
5 hearing is probably good, but I find that Canada in
6 general is turning into a country of hearings,
7 hearings, hearings. The Spencer-Lemaire hearings --
8 sorry, what is it? I plant Spencer Lemaire - the
9 Spicer hearing, all right.

10 I don't know why, but I just find that --
11 my bottom line is, I find that northwestern Ontario
12 generally speaking, there had to be -- it's true, there
13 had to be some crunches. For example, the mercury
14 pollution from years ago from pulp and paper. I mean,
15 that had to be stopped. All right. I mean, nobody can
16 deny it.

17 I believe that in general the industry is
18 trying to tradeoff between being competitive and being
19 environmental conscious. I believe that we are at a
20 very stable state right now where the environment can
21 easily recover from the logging industry as a whole as
22 it exists in northern Ontario today.

23 Thank you very much. Bye-bye.

24 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Thomson.

25 Are there any questions for Mr. Thomson?

1 (no response)

2 Thank you.

3 We are going to take a 15-minute break
4 now, our court reporters need to have a rest, and when
5 we come back we will hear from Mrs. Olean Jones, Mr.
6 Jack Pearson and Mr. Herb Martin.

7 ---Recess at 8:35 p.m.

8 ---On resuming at 8:50 p.m.

9 MADAM CHAIR: The Board will now call on
10 Mrs. Jones.

11 OLEAN JONES, Sworn

12 MS. JONES: Good evening. My name is
13 Olean Jones. I am a liaison teacher with the Board of
14 Education. I have lived in northwestern Ontario all of
15 my life. I have resided in Kenora for the past 17
16 years.

17 Tonight I would like to speak on behalf
18 of the local scouting movement. It is known as the
19 Kenkee District in this area and our area extends from
20 Minaki down to Sioux Narrows and, of course, Keewatin
21 and Jaffray-Melick.

22 I have 12 years in scouting here in
23 Kenora in various positions. I have been a cub leader,
24 I have been district commissioner, I am a provincial
25 trainer and currently I sit on the local council.

1 One of Scouts Canada's biggest thrust has
2 been the Trees for Canada Program. Now, I would like
3 to tell you a little bit about this program. It is a
4 Canada-wide program and it started in 1974. Kenora has
5 been involved since 1978. This involves all scouting
6 members right from our five year old beavers all the
7 way through to its owl members including members of the
8 council.

9 Trees for Canada provides a meaningful
10 way for our members to learn about the environment and
11 the need for sound conservation practices by hands-on
12 experience. Now, by hands-on experience, I mean this
13 is the actual planting of seedlings in a variety of
14 settings. In the years that I have been involved we
15 have planted in quite a variety of areas. We have
16 plant farmers' fields, we have planted wind breakers
17 there, we have planted on burn areas, on cut areas, we
18 have planted red pine in gravel pits, black spruce in
19 wet areas, we have planted red pine in sandy areas and
20 the list just kind of goes on. Every year the Trees
21 for Canada Program plants 2.5 million seedlings across
22 Canada. So it is a very large program.

23 In the Kenke District we receive help
24 and support, advice from the local Ministry of Natural
25 Resources and also from Boise Cascade Canada. We have

1 been planting for about 12 years with the local MNR and
2 depending on the number of boys we plant anywhere from
3 4,000 to 20,000 trees per plant.

4 The last two years had been kind of a
5 special plant. It has been done during the national
6 forestry week and our we had our younger members
7 planting in gravel pits where the gravel had been used
8 up and exhausted and now we are going to reforest it.

9 The scout members here see first hand the
10 necessity and the means of putting this portion of the
11 land base back into production so that it will become a
12 productive forest land again. About 200 people take
13 part in these plants. We have the little ones, the
14 beaver and cubs which go from age 5 to 11 years old, we
15 have invited the guides to join us, the brownies and
16 their girl guides and their 6 to 12 year-olds, plus the
17 parents and the leaders.

18 We plant in gravel sites which are close
19 to town, about a half hour drive away. The plant only
20 takes a couple of hours. We've planted about 8,000
21 seedlings. They were red pine bareroot stocks, two to
22 three years old, a little bigger so the kids could hang
23 on to them.

24 MNR have been very supportive. They
25 provide the supervision, they provide the string to

1 make rows so that the boys can walk in some sort of a
2 straight line because if you let them go by themselves
3 they are all over the place picking frogs, looking for
4 snakes, stuff like that. MNR also provides our
5 barbecue lunch and soft drinks and so on. The MNR has
6 also placed a sign on each site indicating that it was
7 a rehabit site and who planted them.

8 FROM THE AUDIENCE: Can't hear you.

9 MS. JONES: Now, our Boise plant is
10 something that we have done only for the past four
11 years and it's a more extensive plant and involves our
12 older members.

13 The site is on Prospect Lake which is
14 about 125 kilometres north of Kenora. Here we plant
15 black spruce and jack pine container stocks in the
16 cut-over areas. We have planted between 45 and 50,000
17 seedlings in our four plants.

18 As I said, it's the older boys that take
19 part, the scouts and ventures which are 12 to 18 years
20 old. Our leaders, past scouters come out, members of
21 councils come out, parents come out, and so on, I won't
22 tell you their ages.

23 About 35 members take part in this. Now,
24 we do make it a fun plant. The boys go up the night
25 before and they stay at the Boise bunk houses where

1 they can have a camp fire or explore the area or do
2 whatever it is that boys like to do, and they sure can
3 be rambunctious.

4 The next day we put in about eight hours
5 on the Saturday planting. Boise supplies the
6 supervision, they supply the seedlings, the hardhats,
7 planting bags, shovels, the whole bit, whatever it is
8 that we need, we just bring our sleeping bags and our
9 food.

10 It is one thing to study such topics as
11 conservation, environment and mother nature in a school
12 setting or at a scout setting, but as teacher I know
13 that it is something else to actually take part in
14 these plants and do this right on site.

15 The boys plant in the natural habitat the
16 various trees and not only learn about reforestation
17 but also their many side effects. This year we had two
18 young cubs that were bound determined they were going
19 to take those baby frogs home to show their mom. I
20 wasn't impressed, but they wanted to do it, they kept
21 putting them in their hardhats and fill them up with
22 water.

23 We have also seen a lot of big game, you
24 know, bears and moose and bald eagles and they learn
25 about other plant life, so it's a real education for

1 them.

2 We do enjoy the plants. We get a good
3 turnout. Even if it rains, we go out there and - of
4 course, we're prepared so that's no problem. The
5 emphasis in scouting is on outdoor activities and
6 appreciation of the outdoors, even the beaver's promise
7 is to help take care of the world.

8 The tree plant and the Trees for Canada
9 Program fits so well in scouting ideals that we hope
10 that it continues for many, many years. And I really
11 want to stress tonight that tree planting to us is
12 very, very important.

13 Thank you.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mrs.
15 Jones.

16 Any questions for Mrs. Jones?

17 (no response)

18 Thank you very much.

19 Is Mr. Jack Pearson here?

20 JACK PEARSON, Sworn

21 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Pearson has given the
22 Board a written submission and this will be Exhibit
23 1847.

24 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1847: Written presentation by Mr. Jack
25 Pearson.

1 MR. PEARSON: My name is Jack Pearson,
2 Acting Mayor of the Town of Keewatin. I am here only
3 because our mayor is presencely laid up with a back
4 condition and had every intention of being out but his
5 doctor threatened him with hospital if he doesn't stay
6 home. He's been going to work and he said: That's the
7 end of that, you stay home or hospital. So he did
8 prepare this brief and I'm going to present it on his
9 behalf.

10 Can you hear me okay?

11 Just a little background on the Mayor -
12 this isn't part of his presentation - just so you have
13 an idea what we're talking about.

14 Don Parfitt was elected to Town Council,
15 Municipality of Keewatin in 1981, served for two years
16 as a councillor, he was elected and served as Mayor
17 from 1983 to the present time. In his capacity as
18 Mayor, Don has and is serving as a municipal
19 representative of the various local boards and
20 committees.

21 Other offices held, he was President of
22 the Northern Ontario Municipal Association, that's NOMA
23 in 1986; he was President of the Kenora District
24 Municipal Association (KDMA) in 1987, he was Chairman
25 of the Kenora/Rainy River Northern Development

1 Council - I said was - he is from 1986 to the present
2 time, he's still active there, he was Chairman of the
3 Northwestern Ontario Association of Municipalities of
4 Ontario, he was on the executive committee and his job
5 is an accountant and partner with Dunwoody and Company
6 Limited here in Kenora.

7 Madam Chair, committee members, let me
8 preface my remarks by saying that you may have already
9 heard some of the comments we are about to make from
10 our neighbouring communities; however, since we do not
11 know who the presenters are nor do we control the said
12 presenters' time slots, we ask that you bear with us.

13 We would, first of all, like to thank you
14 for your ensuring that we are provided with an
15 opportunity to present our views in our backyard. So
16 often it happens that we are asked for input and have
17 to commit significant time and travel cost to present
18 our views in the south.

19 For the Board's information, you are
20 approximately 1,200 miles from our Capital and let us
21 assure you that many in the southeastern part of this
22 province are unaware of the significant size and, in
23 addition, are not knowledgeable on parts of its
24 geography.

25 However, nestled up here in never, never

1 land use of natural resource is not only vital but
2 critical to our social and economic well-being; and
3 rest assured we are just as if not more concerned about
4 the environment than our neighbours hundreds of miles
5 away for we have chosen to live and work here.

6 Our bedroom community of 2,000 residents
7 immediately to the west of Kenora and the Boise Cascade
8 (Canada) Limited's pulp and paper mill benefits
9 substantially from the forest industry for not only do
10 we have many of Boise's workers reside in our
11 community, but we also have several businesses such as
12 wood suppliers that are almost exclusively dependent
13 upon the mill for their survival.

14 In our opinion, Boise has been a good
15 Tri-Municipal corporate citizen, providing not only
16 monetary contribution to many non-profit organizations
17 such as arenas, hospitals, library expansions, to name
18 a few, but they're also instrumental in the
19 establishment of our Tri-Municipal Economic Development
20 Commission to assist the municipality to broaden our
21 economic basis. That was approximately seven years ago
22 and to this day they remain a member of the commission,
23 provide a member of their management team which we
24 appreciate for additional expertise.

25 In our attempt to expand our business and

1 resulting tax base we have been extremely fortunate in
2 our dealings with them in that they have provided some
3 of the landholding to us for reasonable prices. In
4 addition, they have also donated land to the community
5 for park purposes for the benefit of all its citizens.

6 As you can see, and as we are sure you
7 will hear from others, the forest industry, and
8 particularly Boise, has a major impact on not only
9 ourselves but our neighbouring communities and
10 surrounding area.

11 As you're aware, the mandate of the
12 Ministry of Natural Resources is not just confined to
13 the forest but also includes fishing, hunting, trapping
14 and mining, and we believe that all interest groups
15 should be allowed to share in the use and enjoyment of
16 our natural resources.

17 For your information we have believed in
18 this multi-use concept for many years and in fact
19 requested the Ministry of Natural Resources to allow
20 multi-use in Natakaki Provincial Park created
21 approximately five years ago and located approximately
22 a hundred miles north of us. Despite the fact that the
23 government of the day assured us we were being listened
24 to, special interest groups from the south pressured
25 the politicians to allow no commercial activity

1 whatsoever.

2 With the exception of mining, these
3 resources are all renewable and, therefore, all
4 interest groups have a responsibility to do their part
5 to ensure that not only they but, in addition, that
6 future generations are able to use them both socially
7 and economically as well.

8 In our opinion, because of the special
9 and competing interests of these various sectors of
10 society, we have to entrust someone on our behalf to
11 ensure that all parties have their say, but we also
12 believe that this party/trustee will then have to be
13 held accountable for their actions, not only to
14 citizens of this area, but in fact to all citizens of
15 the province.

16 Historically this responsibility for
17 managing the resources has been in the hands of the
18 Ministry of Natural Resources and we feel quite
19 strongly that it should remain there.

20 We would be the first to admit that in
21 the past they haven't been perfect in their management,
22 however, during the past several years we believe their
23 management abilities and techniques have changed
24 considerably for the good of all.

25 For instance, in the past several years

1 new hunting and fishing regulations have been
2 introduced and accepted. And you have to bear with me,
3 I did a little editing here. The Mayor said I could do
4 what I wanted to, put a period in after "accepted" and
5 take out the "and".

6 In the forest industry forest management
7 agreements with their underlined sustained yield basis
8 and harvesting methods and environmentally sensitive
9 areas have required seedling plantings that have been
10 agreed to at the Ministry and appear to be working.
11 The forest industry also must have a social conscience
12 for they are dependent upon the resources to ensure
13 profits and longevity for their companies and
14 shareholders. When one thinks about this, as long as
15 industry and the Ministry of Natural Resource can
16 negotiate FMAs, cooperation and communication prevails
17 to the satisfaction of both parties and, hence,
18 everyone in the long run.

19 Based on various conversations that we
20 have had with the industry in the area, we understand
21 that they feel the FMAs are good for they ensure a
22 defined working relationship between the two parties.

23 We would also submit that historically
24 the Ministry of Environment has had the responsibility
25 of managing the environment, but they as well have not

1 been perfect in their methods in the past.

2 For example, major septic system problems
3 in the Clearwater Bay area just 15 miles west of here.
4 However, we believe that they must also be entrusted
5 with managing the environment on our behalf.

6 However, based on our personal experience
7 over the past two years, we would submit that the
8 Environmental Assessment Act must change. In our
9 opinion, we cannot continue to take years to decide
10 where waste disposal sites or garbage dumps will be
11 located. I can attest to that because I have been on
12 that committee for eight years and we're still five
13 years down the road at the earliest to even possibly
14 open another waste management site.

15 We have passed our thoughts and opinions
16 on this matter to the bureaucracy and the politicians
17 but to date we have no indication they're listening.

18 In closing, let me assure you that the
19 environment concerns us all. As society we have come a
20 long way on environmental awareness in the past 10
21 years, even five years; however, economically we must
22 carry on with the best information available to us
23 today for we submit that in future we are certain that
24 new problems will be brought to our attention.

25 There is an old saying: When the going

1 gets tough the tough get going, and as long as common
2 sense prevails we have no reason to believe these
3 problems can't be solved.

4 Your committee has completed almost - we
5 put in three years rather than two there - of input and
6 heard many, many presentations and we, therefore,
7 respectfully submit that you do not be misled by vocal
8 minority special interest groups located several
9 hundred miles from here and you support the Ministry of
10 Natural Resources in their application which we believe
11 to be the most sensible and expeditious solution to
12 deal with the problem that we as society are confronted
13 with today.

14 Thank you for the time and patience. And
15 it's signed Mayor D.A. Parfitt, Town of Keewatin.

16 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
17 Pearson.

18 MR. MARTEL: Well, you might be
19 interested to know in your second last paragraph that
20 my colleague and I have suggested some changes that
21 might be made in the environmental process because we
22 agree with you rather totally, that anything beyond --
23 well, it's just beyond the pale the way the hearings
24 are going, and the new Minister of the Environment has
25 indicated publicly she intends to amend the Act.

1 MR. PEARSON: Thank you very much.

2 MADAM CHAIR: Any questions for Mr.

3 Pearson?

4 (no response)

5 Thank you very much.

6 MR. PEARSON: I will leave this thumbnail
7 sketch with you.

8 MADAM CHAIR: All right, thank you.

9 MR. PEARSON: (handed)

10 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. This is Mayor
11 Parfitt's background and we will append this to Exhibit
12 1847.

13 Is Mr. Herb Martin here?

14 HERB MARTIN, Sworn

15 MR. MARTIN: My name is Herb Martin and
16 I'm a tree planting contractor. I've had nine years
17 experience in the field. My first four years I spent
18 as a tree planter working my way through college and I
19 tree planted mostly in British Columbia at that point
20 in the Prince George forest region. Thereafter I
21 worked as a foreman for a couple of companies in
22 Ontario and thereafter I started my own company which
23 will be five years old this spring.

24 I primarily worked in Ontario. Last year
25 I planted for the MNR from Cornwall all the way through

1 to Kenora. I have also worked for a couple of FMAs in
2 the province. Although I think fundamentally the tree
3 planting program is run very well in Ontario both by
4 the MNR and the FMAs, I see a couple of avenues where
5 improvements could be made.

6 Just a little background here. In the
7 northwestern region of Ontario approximately 20-million
8 trees are planted every year. This means employment
9 for approximately 500 planters for over six weeks each
10 spring. Recently the newly elected government has put
11 increasing pressure on contractors to hire more people
12 whenever possible.

13 I would like to remark that approximately
14 10 per cent of our planters are locals, mostly from
15 reserves, northern reserves and from Crown reserves.

16 However, it is my experience that with
17 only six weeks work available many local people are not
18 interested in working in the tree planting field, which
19 is understandable, it's not a career move and,
20 therefore, the bulk of tree planters, both my company
21 and even in other companies, as you heard from Mr. Bill
22 Skene who lives in Dryden, about 15 per cent of his
23 employees are locals. So it's primarily university
24 students from southern Ontario and other provinces that
25 do the bulk of the work.

1 Now, while the economic impact of 500
2 people on the local economy in northwestern Ontario is
3 not insignificant and it could be much more. In my
4 experience in B.C. there are programs to plant trees
5 during the spring as well as the summer and fall
6 months, there is also extensive programs in juvenile
7 spacing, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed burns,
8 herbicide applications and there are in fact other
9 programs as well.

10 This additional work allows for up to
11 seven or eight months work and allows for
12 semi-permanent local forests to become established and
13 skilled at the job they do. As well as increased
14 employment, these additional work programs such as
15 juvenile spacing will provide an answer to a looming
16 wood fiber shortage that is forecast to happen within
17 next the 10 to 30 years.

18 In short, I believe that more funding
19 should be supplied to establish a more solid
20 silvicultural industry that not only plants trees but
21 cares and enhances their growth throughout the crop
22 rotation.

23 In answer to Mr. Allan Thomson who
24 presented before, I believe that investing and not
25 spending during time of recession would be a proper way

1 to proceed as this money that is put into the forest
2 will come back, it's not a matter of make work
3 projects, this is money that will be an investment and
4 this will be a solid investment.

5 I have a smaller point, and this maybe
6 sounds more technical, but I believe the MNR and FMAs
7 should pursue more fully the concept of hectare or area
8 based planting. In the past there has been a great
9 emphasis on the number of trees planted. I think a
10 couple of premiers-ago Bill Davis said that he wanted
11 to plant a tree for every tree that was cut down.
12 This -- sometimes this leads to an inefficient
13 allocation of trees as the same number could be planted
14 to greater effect by covering a greater amount of
15 ground.

16 Where planters are paid piecework they
17 have an incentive to put as many as possible in the
18 ground a lot of time. When a planter is paid by the
19 area he has planted -- sorry, by the area, he has an
20 incentive to cover the area as efficiently as possible
21 and utilizing the resources of these nursery trees to
22 as great an effect as possible.

23 Although this may seem somewhat
24 technical, I agree it will be an increasingly valuable
25 silvicultural tool as well as turning tree planting

1 into more of a skilled work I think is necessary.

2 Instead of having just people come up for six weeks,
3 putting their head down and firing lots of trees in the
4 ground, if you start doing area base planting you have
5 planters looking for naturals, you have planters
6 maximizing the spacing available, and these people once
7 they're skilled - and it is not a skill to be taken
8 lightly - a good planter takes at least a couple of
9 moose to master his trade and quite often he can get
10 better over the years.

11 So if area base tree planting is pursued
12 it will encourage more a skilled workforce and
13 hopefully encourage the development of more local
14 interest.

15 Those are my basic points anyway.

16 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Martin.

17 MR. MARTEL: At this late time I almost
18 hesitate to get into the discussion of whether
19 government should fund or not fund.

20 I mean, I've listened all day and I've
21 listened for the past couple of weeks what people have
22 been saying about funding and government and yet people
23 keep, on one hand say: No, no, government shouldn't
24 spend and, on the other hand, they're saying:
25 Government should spend more.

1 And I'm sure you saw the demonstration
2 last Thursday at Queen's Park that was well organized.
3 Where do we go, do we spend more or do we cut back?

4 MR. MARTIN: No, we invest.

5 MR. MARTEL: Well, you can cut it anyway
6 you want.

7 MR. MARTIN: No. I think when you've got
8 a demonstrable need for thinning programs that will pay
9 back down the road, that is not a make work program,
10 that's not spending, that's making an investment in the
11 figure and I think that's what the government should be
12 doing.

13 MR. MARTEL: Mr. Martin, most governments
14 that I know don't go around looking for make work
15 projects, there's far too many projects. Everyone can
16 make a case but that's the difficulty. I hear people
17 saying it to us all the time: Don't invest or don't
18 cut or you're spending too much and, on the other hand,
19 we need more and if you were to ask 50 people on the
20 street tonight - after it quits raining of course -
21 what we should do, and all the people who tell you that
22 we should cut spending, we'll all have a pet project
23 that they think we should enhance, and it doesn't
24 matter whether it's forestry, or whether it's education
25 or whether it's health, everybody has got their own pet

1 project, cut everybody else's.

2 MR. MARTIN: I think in the basis -- in
3 the forest industry you've got pulp and paper mills
4 that are worth a billion dollars or more and they're
5 already running into wood fiber shortages. This is an
6 industry that needs more fiber already and these
7 programs are going to enhance that supply.

8 MR. MARTEL: I'm not trying to argue
9 whether the need is there. I simply listen to people
10 who come before us and say: Oh, you can't spend any
11 more and the very next breath are saying: Well, this
12 is so much required.

13 MR. MARTIN: I think the bulk of people
14 here tonight and today have repeated the great need and
15 importance of the forest industry in this area at least
16 and I think they would all agree that this is more than
17 just some pet project.

18 MR. MARTEL: Well, as I say, I can take
19 you to the health community who would argue that they
20 need a new cat scan for a hospital in Timmins, and one
21 that needed a new piece of equipment for a university,
22 so that they can remain up to date.

23 I mean, those are the dilemmas you get
24 caught in.

25 MR. MARTIN: Except that, again, I would

1 submit to you that the forest industry provides the
2 funds where those other money comes from. The
3 forest -- that the money from the forest industry has
4 been taken from northwestern Ontario and other northern
5 Ontario communities for a long time to provide social
6 spending, funding in the southern Ontario, and that
7 it's perhaps time to reinvest in northern Ontario.

8 MR. MARTEL: Mr. Martin, I come from
9 northern Ontario, I have never left the north, I come
10 from a mining community where I made all the same
11 arguments for 20 years.

12 I simply tell you, it's not as easy as it
13 looks.

14 MR. MARTIN: Whatever.

15 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Martin, on the concept
16 of area based tree planting, is that something that is
17 done in British Columbia?

18 MR. MARTIN: It's done extensively in
19 British Columbia, yes. It's being started this year
20 through the Ministry of Natural Resources in Ontario
21 and I hope to see it further pursued by the MNR as well
22 as by the FMAs.

23 I believe the FMAs are funded right now
24 on the basis of per thousand trees planted; an area
25 based funding perhaps would be more efficient in some

1 cases.

2 MR. MARTEL: Do you know where it's being
3 tried this year?

4 MR. MARTIN: In northwestern Ontario it's
5 being done by Red Lake -- in Red Lake MNR, in fact it's
6 my company that took the contract this year.

7 There's also contracts in North Bay,
8 Sudbury, Geraldton, and one other district I can't
9 remember.

10 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

11 Any other questions for Mr. Martin?

12 Yes, sir?

13 He was talking about funding for thinning
14 trees out and things like that. We have a really large
15 employment in the winter time and spring and fall in
16 this area and we're being paid for basically staying
17 home from the company.

18 I would like to see a lot of these people
19 in make work projects thinning trees out and
20 accomplishing something instead of sitting at home.

21 If you look at the unemployment rates and
22 people that are here in the winter time not doing
23 nothing, there would be a good workforce here that they
24 could utilize thinning all the trees out in areas that
25 have been burnt and trees are coming out very thick,

1 and I realize some of these people could use this work
2 and it wouldn't cost the taxpayer nothing.

3 MR. MARTEL: That was being done by the
4 Government of Ontario a number of years ago. The only
5 problem was come spring your trees were still three
6 feet high because you couldn't get down to the root of
7 the tree and the Ministry spent, I can recall, a whole
8 winter -- more winter work projects one year were tree
9 thinning and a lot of thinning I guess of some of the
10 trees towards southern Ontario which they thought were
11 dead or dying, and come spring after the snow melted
12 the trees were two and a half to three feet above the
13 ground yet.

14 There is a problem that unless you do it
15 before the snow comes you can't get to the root down to
16 the base of the tree.

17 MR. MARTIN: As I mentioned before, in
18 British Columbia they have the same problem during the
19 winter but they manage to get six or seven months of
20 work in, so it's not full year round work, but at least
21 it's better than six weeks.

22 MR. MARTEL: Yes.

23 MADAM CHAIR: Any other questions for Mr.
24 Martin?

25 Yes, sir?

1 MR. MacGILLIVRAY: I just have a
2 question. As far as people that are going to work in
3 the woods, would that necessitate a salary type of
4 payment or are they paid now so many cents per tree
5 planted?

6 MR. MARTIN: Right now most tree planting
7 is done by piecework, although area based they would be
8 paid on the hectares that they plant.

9 MR. MacGILLIVRAY: So you're advocating
10 kind of a salary situation?

11 MR. MARTIN: Well, I'm a contractor, I
12 believe the contract system works very well, it's
13 fairly efficient, it's extremely competitive and, yeah,
14 I think that is one possible answer.

15 I know there's work to be done. I'm not
16 saying how it should be done.

17 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
18 Martin.

19 And the last scheduled presentation for
20 the evening is Mr. Charles Queau, I'm not sure if I
21 have your name spelled correctly.

22 MR. QUEAU: Oh, it's okay.

23 CHARLES QUEAU, Sworn

24 MR. QUEAU: Madam Chair, my name is
25 Charles Queau. I own and operate Evergreen Farms in

1 Dryden. We have produced about 25 million tree
2 seedlings in containers since we started up eight years
3 ago, employ 16 seasonal workers and have a payroll of
4 about \$140,000 per annum.

5 I am appearing before you out of a sense
6 of fear as much as anything else. I'm afraid that you
7 won't share my vision of northern Ontario. The vision
8 has many elements including being able to work in an
9 area surrounded by nature's physical beauty, working at
10 a pace that's in harmony with nature, following her
11 seasons, taking time to pay attention to detail.

12 I'm a hunter enjoying our forests in the
13 fall and early winter. For myself and many of my
14 friends, hunting is an excuse to go wandering in the
15 bush. It's a part of our lives that we don't want to
16 lose.

17 I'm a fisherman, usually from my canoe.
18 My wife and I can access a dozen different lakes within
19 20 minutes from our home thanks to old logging roads.
20 I'm a father, my son and daughter have been brought up
21 with the respect and love for our area. Nature has a
22 way of taking the rough edges off the teens, made them
23 stronger and more self-reliant.

24 This fishing is made possible by the many
25 different groups of users of our forests working

1 together in harmony. There's a lot of area out there
2 and, for the most part, I think that a balance has been
3 struck. It's been my experience that the users of our
4 forests have matured greatly during my lifetime.

5 As a child I grew up in a tourist camp,
6 the prevailing attitude at that time was that bigger
7 was better, more was never enough. Nowadays fishermen
8 are carrying cameras with them and they're bragging
9 about the big one that they let go.

10 Shoreline sights are a lot cleaner, with
11 users bringing their garbage home with them. We used
12 to walk back in the bush a little way and pitch it.
13 That was the norm. Lands & Forests personnel seemed to
14 be more preoccupied with forest fire suppression than
15 anything else in those days. Now these people are
16 professionals and are actually managing our forests and
17 are very much concerned with all aspects of its growth
18 and development.

19 When I was growing up my idea of a logger
20 was a kid who turned 16 and headed off to the bush with
21 a power saw and packsack; not any more, the image has
22 changed. These men are trained professionals with
23 investments of a hundred thousand plus dollars and
24 they're very concerned that they can sustain their way
25 of life.

1 Compaction of the forest floor wasn't an
2 issue in the 60s but it is now that they have to
3 replant that same ground.

4 My point is that we've all matured and
5 grown up together, we care for each other, the
6 implications of our decisions and actions as users of
7 our forests affect us who live and work here because we
8 all have multiple roles in the use of our land.
9 The logger is a backpacker, is a fisherman, hunter, is
10 a father, is a concerned citizen.

11 Yes, we need rules, guidelines and laws.
12 We must, however, be sensitive to the human component
13 of the north. Forestry accounts for 45 per cent of all
14 manufacturing jobs in northern Ontario. We can't allow
15 any one interest group to impose its values on another
16 without due consideration of the impact on everyone
17 else.

18 There is a balance in effect now. I'm
19 afraid that however well intentioned, you will upset
20 that balance.

21 We have come a long way towards a
22 harmonious existence with nature in the north, we are
23 changing through education more than by laws; we're
24 willing participants, rather than begrudging reactors.

25 In close, I would like to commend the

1 foresters associated with the MNR, private companies
2 for a job well done. While I recognize that there's
3 still problems to be addressed, I'm satisfied that they
4 will continue to be identified and dealt with in an
5 honest, responsible manner. I would encourage you, the
6 Board, to work with these people and recommend
7 increased support from our provincial government in
8 both monetary and moral sense.

9 Thank you.

10 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Queau.

11 Are there any questions for Mr. Queau?

12 (no response)

13 Thank you very much.

14 MR. QUEAU: Thank you.

15 MADAM CHAIR: Are there any other
16 questions or would anyone else in the audience like to
17 say something?

18 Yes, sir?

19 GEORGE KOVALL, Called

20 MR. KOVALL: My name is George Kovall and
21 I'd like to give a little oral presentation.

22 Madam Chairman and friends, I make this
23 presentation partly on behalf of Jaffray-Melick Town
24 Council and partly as a citizen of the town.

25 I'd like to give you a little background

1 of our community of Jaffray-Melick. The area of the
2 municipality is approximately 55,000 acres. In the
3 beginning this area was Crown land. The two townships
4 were surveyed around the turn of the century. The area
5 began to get settled under the terms of the Homestead
6 Act legislation which was repealed in the year 1947.
7 This, in my opinion, shows multiple use of Crown lands
8 from the beginning.

9 The land was basically covered by
10 forests, land was cleared to support livestock and
11 crops. Unsuitable land for tillage was left to growing
12 trees.

13 Before and at the turn of the century
14 trees were used for fuel, logs for sawmills to produce
15 lumber and for building various goods. This trend
16 changed in the 20s when Backison-Brooks built a paper
17 mill which, incidentally, turned over to be Boise
18 Cascade at the present time, this paper mill in Kenora.
19 The demand for softwood of evergreen trees was a boom
20 to the economy.

21 I live on the north half of Lot 5,
22 Concession 2. My grandfather pioneered this property
23 on or about the year of 1913. Primarily he built a
24 house out of logs as well as the barn. All the ground
25 possible was cleared by hand and old fashioned horse

1 power. Monetary gain was primarily fuel wood in
2 Kenora. This introduction shows the type of forest
3 management in progress in the early years.

4 In my opinion, my grandfather was the
5 best conservationist in his day. He never cut trees
6 unless they were matured or diseased, always trimmed
7 bottom limbs to a height of at least six feet so they
8 could stretch out and reach up to the sun and grow.

9 I can go on forever about this, but to
10 get to the point about the present timber management.
11 Incidentally, I stayed on this same property which I am
12 still living on right now. I was introduced to timber
13 management in about 1936 when my grandfather acquired
14 an extra wood lot north of his residence. Under his
15 guidance selective cutting was always followed. There
16 was no tree planting, but all end stocks were burned
17 mostly in winter months. This action opened pine cones
18 for reseeding. Cutting operations ceased around 1945
19 and now the lot is ready for reharvest.

20 The introduction of the power saw and
21 skidder changed the forest harvest dramatically. It
22 now became impossible to now keep up with the plan of
23 burning brush in the early spring to further reseeding
24 of conifers.

25 Clearcutting, in my opinion, is wasteful

1 as it destroys young growth and undesirous species.

2 Right-of-ways for roads, power lines, et cetera, most
3 are clearcut and burned on the premises instead of
4 being hauled to market.

5 After all is said and done, I believe MNR
6 is finally taking the right approach in their
7 management of timber resources.

8 I do believe in multiple use of Crown
9 lands. Access roads into cutting areas has opened new
10 frontiers for recreation. This creates a refuse
11 problem along our lakes and streams.

12 In regards to park lands, I think that
13 timber harvest should be carried out only on a
14 selective cutting basis.

15 I hope by this submission that I bring
16 focus on timber management as a farming operation.
17 After all, seeding and harvesting trees is not like
18 growing grain on a farm. The greatest difference is
19 the time frame. Maturity of farm crops is measured in
20 days. Maturity of timber is measured by years.
21 Therefore, timber management takes long-term planning.

22 Multiple use of Crown lands is going to
23 take cooperation from all parties concerned. The motto
24 for users of Crown land would be: Leave the premises
25 in a better condition than on arrival.

1 Travel on Crown land creates an
2 environmental concern. Is the cost of clean up, if
3 there is any, overcome by the revenue from permits, et
4 cetera, by the users.

5 The task of timber management is
6 monumental for the Ministry of Natural Resources, but I
7 feel confident that in their wisdom an acceptable
8 decision will evolve from this hearing.

9 In closing, we must all remember, no
10 trees, no resources; no resources, no jobs; no jobs, no
11 people. I thank you for your patience.

12 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you for your
13 presentation.

14 Could you spell your last name for us,
15 please.

16 MR. KOVALL: K-o-v-a-l-l.

17 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Kovall.

18 Before we close this evening, we received
19 a six-page written submission from Lorelie Konchak who
20 is with E. Holmgren & Son Limited in Ottawa and I would
21 like to enter this exhibit -- or enter this submission
22 and give it Exhibit No. 1848.

23 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1848: Six-page written submission from
24 Lorelie Konchak, E. Holmgren &
Son Limited, Ottawa.

25 MADAM CHAIR: Perhaps someone could

1 enlighten me. Mrs. Konchak is in Ottawa but is this a
2 local company?

3 MS. BLASTORAH: What was the name again?

4 MADAM CHAIR: The name is Holmgren & Son
5 Limited.

6 MR. PEARSON: I can perhaps fill you in
7 on that one.

8 D.H. Holmgren & Son is a contractor who
9 actually work out of Spragge, Manitoba. They do have
10 cutting licence on the Northwest Angle in Ontario and
11 harvest both Manitoba and Ontario and have produced and
12 delivered wood to the Boise mill and the
13 Ontario-Minnesota Pulp and Paper for a good many years,
14 as was pointed out in the brief.

15 They landed wood on the ice at the Angle
16 at one time and it was towed into the mill here in
17 Kenora. That has of course changed and now the wood is
18 all trucked into the mill.

19 They're presently living in Ottawa,
20 selling their businesses, and moving back home. The
21 father passed away this past spring and they are taking
22 over running the business and continuing it on.

23 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr.
24 Pearson. The Board will be reading this submission.

25 All right. I think that concludes this

1 evening's session. We thank you very much for
2 attending and we thank everyone who made a
3 presentation.

4 We will be in Kenora for the rest of this
5 week and next week we will hearing the evidence of
6 Grand Council Treaty No. 3 and it is open to the public
7 if anyone cares to join us this week or next week.

8 MR. CASSIDY: Madam Chair, just one item
9 in respect of the GCT evidence. I have passed this
10 message on to Mr. Pascoe in the hope that he would be
11 able to get ahold of Mr. Colborne sooner rather than
12 later to advise him that we do not wish at this point
13 to cross-examine in respect of GCT's first or second
14 witness statements, and we hope that that will assist
15 the Board in their scheduling for the rest of the week.

16 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Cassidy.

17 Thank you for attending this session.

18 Good evening.

19
20 ---Whereupon the hearing was adjourned at 9:25 p.m., to
21 be reconvened on Thursday, May 23, 1991, commencing
22 at 9:00 a.m.

23
24
25 [c. copyright, 1985]

